

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

SHIPMATE

MARCH • APRIL 2024



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

LEGACY OF VALOR

By Jeff Webb '95

SKATE's crew froze as a cable attached to a Japanese mine scraped along the length of its port side. Commander Charles W. Burlin '44, USN (Ret.), vividly recalls the tension enveloping the submarine's crew.

From his Cape Cod home in January 2024, Burlin shared memories of his service during World War II and his battle action in the Tsushima Straits in 1945. He was a communications officer aboard SKATE during World War II's Operation Barney.

It was my privilege to hear this harrowing tale firsthand from a member of the Greatest Generation. It was poignant reminder of one of our most sacred missions: honoring those whose service and sacrifice secured the freedoms Americans enjoy today.

In June, the nation will commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation (USNA AA&F) is highlighting the service of WWII veteran alumni through a series of *Shipmate* stories and a roundtable discussion on 25 April. This event, to be held at the Fluegel Alumni Center, will center on the value of preserving and sharing the stories of World War II veterans to inspire future generations.

Our Legacy of Valor campaign began with gathering stories from WWII alumni. The first *Shipmate* stories appeared in the January-February issue and will continue in the May-June and July-August issues. Complementary digital content can be found at www.youtube.com/@USNAAlumni. Sharing stories of Academy alumni will continue with Korean, Vietnam and Cold war veterans in future issues this year and into 2025.

On the Road

As part of USNA AA&F's strategic plan to connect and meet members of the alumni community where they are, Executive Vice President of Engagement and Communications Captain TJ Grady '96, USN (Ret.), and Senior Director of Alumni Engagement and Outreach Programs Nancy Murray met chapter and parent club members in Hawaii and Northern California in January. In February, they engaged with alumni and parents in Florida.

Their outreach is designed to help us measure the impact of our organization and its programs through face-to-face encounters. This will be a multi-year

endeavor with the goal of visiting each of the 104 chapters and the majority of the 77 parent clubs across the country in the next several years.

This issue of *Shipmate* includes the first Chapter Spotlight (see story on page 30), a new feature that highlights the great things chapters are doing for local alumni, the Naval Academy and their communities. The Jacksonville, FL, chapter offers a model for supporting veterans nonprofits, promoting the Naval Academy and engaging local alumni through a super-sized Army-Navy watch party at an NFL stadium. BZ to Jacksonville for creating an extraordinary event that delivers about \$30,000 annually to veterans' charities!

Historic Command

On 11 January, we welcomed Vice Admiral Yvette Davids '89, USN, as the Naval Academy's 65th Superintendent (see story on page 6) during a change of command ceremony in Memorial Hall. The gathering was quite special considering the many distinguished guests, representation from classes of 1989 and 1990, the Superintendents' personal guests and members of two Shared Interest Groups, USNA Women and the USNA Minority Association.

Davids is *full speed ahead* in her new role. Beyond her typical commitments during the week, she can easily be found at Navy sporting events across the Yard. From our work together, I can see Davids clearly understands the positive role our parent and alumni community can play in helping the Naval Academy execute its mission.

We again want to thank Vice Admiral Fred Kacher '90, USN, for his steady leadership as the Academy's 64th Superintendent. Kacher assumed duties as commander of the United States Seventh Fleet in February.

Remembering Nava and DeMars

On 6 February, **Captain Miguel Nava '17, USMC**, was lost when the CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter he was aboard crashed in Pine Valley, CA. He was one of five members of the Flying Tigers of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH) 361 who were lost.

Miguel was a husband, a father, a son, a brother, a friend and a Marine. We join his wife, Ryann, 5-month-old son, Luca, his brother, Nikolas, and parents, Lisa and



U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association & Foundation President and CEO Jeff Webb '95 met with CDR Charles W. "Bill" Burlin '44, USN (Ret.), in January 2024. Burlin is among the alumni who participated in *Shipmate*'s Legacy of Valor series on World War II veterans.

Javier, in mourning his loss, and the loss of his four fellow Marines from the Flying Tigers of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH 361). Also perishing in the crash were: Captain Benjamin Moulton, USMC; Captain Jack Casey, USMC; Lance Corporal Donovan Davis, USMC; and Sergeant Alec Langen, USMC.

Our Alumni Association and Foundation Memorial Affairs team helped coordinate support and response with the Naval Academy and the family.

I conveyed the following thought on social media and email, and wish to repeat it here as well: When we lose brave men and women who selflessly serve in the defense of our freedom, it is brutal and heartbreaking. We should pause and be reminded that our service members accept immense risks every day. When they perish, as we grieve, we must lock arms as a community and embrace their classmates, friends and family.

Admiral Bruce DeMars '57, USN (Ret.), passed away on 3 February in Falls Church, VA, at the age of 88 after a brief illness. DeMars was born in Chicago, IL, on 3 June 1935. He is a 2009 Alumni Association and Foundation Academy Distinguished Graduate.

DeMars is survived by his wife of 66 years Margaret; his brother Lee (Joanne); his son Bruce Fitzhugh DeMars (Patty); his daughter Margaret Troup (Jamie); three grandchildren, Rebecca Gills (Matthew), Bruce (Brinn) and Catherine Troup; and three great grandchildren, Grace Gills, Everly Gills and Hattie DeMars.

Beginning in 2010, I had the honor of serving on a Naval Academy committee chaired by DeMars. He had a sharp mind, a quick wit and an uncanny ability to steer a discussion to a decision quickly, but without rushing. Spending that time with him was enjoyable and a phenomenal learning experience. We join his family in mourning his loss. 🙏

SHIPMATE

VOLUME 87 • NO. 2

IN THIS ISSUE

MALE ALLIES

Men play pivotal roles in aiding women to integrate and succeed at all levels of command. **10**



SPECIAL BONDS

Married alumni forge unique ties through shared experiences in Annapolis. **16**



HISTORY LESSONS

Class of 1965 hopes its project inspires others to document their stories. **22**



NEW SUPE

VADM Davids '89 makes history as the first woman appointed Superintendent at the Naval Academy.

6

YARD ADVOCACY

Two midshipmen raised awareness of POWs during the Vietnam War. **26**

CHAIRMAN MORAN

ADM Moran '81 shares his vision as A&SP chairman. **28**



Get the Goat

This Bill is hiding somewhere in this issue. Find him and email us at getthegoat@usna.com with the correct page number and you will be entered into a drawing for a prize from the Alumni Association. Good luck! The drawing is limited to the first 100 correct answers, so get reading.

Bill was visiting the Fluegel Alumni Center on the top of page 36 in the January-February 2024 issue of Shipmate.

DEPARTMENTS

2 **Letter from the President**
Jeff Webb '95

4 **All Hands**

5 **Advertisers Index**

25 **5 Minutes With**

30 **Chapter Spotlight**

33 **Bravo Zulu**

34 **Class News**

106 **Chapter News**

133 **Shared Interest Groups**

136 **Last Call**

155 **Classified Ads**

160 **Staff and Assistance**

Our Mission

We strengthen our MEMBERS' BONDS to the Academy and to each other, to help them THRIVE AS LEADERS in and out of uniform and reach their FULL POTENTIAL.

SHIPMATE is the official alumni magazine of the United States Naval Academy.



On the Cover
VADM Yvette Davids '89, USN, became the Naval Academy's 65th Superintendent during an 11 January 2024 change of command ceremony in Memorial Hall.
Photo courtesy of Spencer Jones

ALL HANDS

Fair Winds and Following Seas to Chadwick '62



Rear Admiral Stephen Kent Chadwick '62, USN (Ret.), the 71st Commandant of Midshipmen, passed away on 18 January after a three-year battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps, at the age of 17, with parental permission. After bootcamp at Parris Island, SC, he attended Birmingham Southern College and earned an appointment to the Naval Academy.

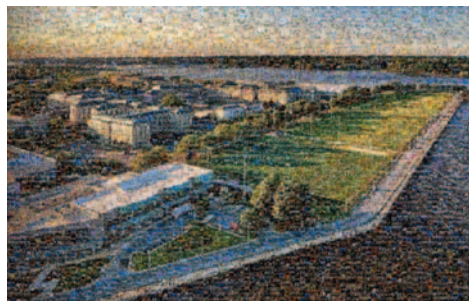
Rear Admiral Chadwick's assignments included commanding two Navy warships and a combat advisory group in the Republic of Vietnam. As a Navy captain, he commanded a Tactical Destroyer Squadron of up to 15 ships in the Atlantic and Sixth Fleet (Mediterranean) operations.

He served as Commandant at the Academy between 1985 and 1987. After a year as the head detailer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, he assumed command of Navy Region Hawaii and all surface ships assigned to the Mid-Pacific Group.

Following his retirement from the Navy, he continued his mission of service on the board of nonprofit organizations including the Naval Academy Athletic & Scholarship Foundation, Heritage Conservancy, 1st LT Travis Manion Foundation and as a court appointed special advocate for children at CASA of the South Plains. For five years, he was president of the Naval Academy Class of 1962.

The funeral service for Chadwick will be held at the Naval Academy Chapel at 10:30 a.m. on 10 May followed by burial at the Naval Academy Cemetery. □

Week of Gratitude



The 2024 Week of Gratitude offered the USNA AA&F to express its appreciation to Naval Academy alumni, donors and friends.

During the fifth annual Week of Gratitude (9-11 January), U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation (USNA AA&F) staff placed personal phone calls to 1,771 supporters, recorded 15,098 ThankView video messages and contacted 77,840 alumni, parents and

friends with our kickoff email.

The Week of Gratitude is designed to share messages of thanks and gratitude to alumni, donors and friends of the Naval Academy. The USNA AA&F received more than 210 submissions to our mosaic at www.usna.com/gratitude, with many donors and volunteers adding messages on why they support the Academy.

Included among the messages was this one, "I support USNA because my time in Annapolis is one of the high points of my life and career and I want to share that opportunity with others." □



PHOTO COURTESY OF USNA

AI Cantello Sr., who coached Navy's cross country and track & field teams for 55 years, died on 17 January. Under his direction, the midshipmen made 12 appearances in the NCAA Championships.

Legendary Coach Cantello Passes Away

AI Cantello Sr., who coached cross country and track and field at the Naval Academy for 55 years, passed away on 17 January. Cantello retired from coaching on 30 August 2018. He served as Navy's head cross country coach for 50 years.

During his time working with midshipmen athletes, Cantello collected a combined 49 N-Star victories over Army as the head coach of the cross country and track and field programs.

Cantello was a standout on the La Salle University track and field team from 1951-55, where he was a two-time All-American in the javelin. He was enshrined in La Salle's Hall of Athletes as a charter member, as well as the Middle Atlantic Conference Hall of Fame and Penn Relays Wall of Fame for his individual success.

A world-class competitor in the javelin throw, Cantello once held every national and international record in the event. In 1959, he set a world record in the javelin (282 feet, 3 inches) and the following year he competed with the U.S. Olympic team at the 1960 Games in Rome. In 1964, *Sport* magazine named Cantello to its all-time track and field team and voted him the world's greatest competitor in the javelin.

Upon his graduation from La Salle, Cantello joined the Marine Corps, where he served for 10 years.

Competing at the Heptagonal Championships through 2002, Cantello and the Midshipmen earned outright titles in 1974, 1992 and 1996. After joining the Patriot League in 2003, Cantello and the Midshipmen captured eight Patriot League Championships in nine years from 2008 through 2016. His teams made 12 appearances at the NCAA Championships. The 1985 and 1992 teams recorded the highest finish for a Midshipmen squad, as they both placed seventh overall. □

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

Log into **Online Community** at usna.com to update your profile.

Caldwell '81 Passes Old Goat Award to Aquilino '84



ADM John C. Aquilino '84, USN (left), receives the Old Goat Award from ADM James F. Caldwell '81, USN, on 9 January at the Pentagon. The award is passed along to the longest serving Naval Academy graduate on active duty.

Admiral John C. Aquilino '84, USN, received the Old Goat Award from Admiral James "Frank" Caldwell '81, USN, on 9 January at the Pentagon. The Old Goat Award is given to the longest serving Naval Academy graduate on active duty.

"It has been my absolute privilege to serve as the Old Goat for the last year and a

half," Caldwell said. "Admiral 'Lung' Aquilino is an amazing leader and the consummate warfighter. He'll make an excellent Old Goat while continuing to serve our navy and our Nation. '81 Sir!"

Aquilino accepted the award with a bit of humor.

"Everyone already calls me an old goat, I guess this just formalizes it," he said. "I receive this award behalf of the entire proud Naval Academy Class of 1984, all of whom, I can assure you, would be surprised that I am the last man standing. It has been the honor of my life, and I can think of no greater career than as a fighter pilot in service of the United States Navy.

"I want to thank Admiral Frank Caldwell for his service and leadership for more than 40 years in uniform in the greatest Navy in the world. Thank you, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation for this award, I cannot wait to pass it on."

The Old Goat Award started with Rear Admiral Alton Stocks '72, USN (Ret.).

Shipmate Online



As the Classes of 1974 and 1999 prepare to celebrate their 50th and 25th anniversaries, respectively, this year, the USNA AA&F wanted to spotlight Shipmate coverage during their graduation years.

Shipmate offers a hearty BZ to the Classes of 1974 and 1999, as they commemorate their 50th and 25th graduation anniversaries. We thought it would be fun to reflect on Shipmate's coverage of your graduation year and what was happening in the fleet and on the Yard during those times.

We invite all classes and alumni to explore

our digital archives that include all Shipmate issues dating back to the inaugural issue in May 1938 at www.usna.com/shipmate/archived-issues.



MEDICAL FACILITATION

We want to build the ultimate "gouge" handbook for our alumni when it comes to navigating the Veterans Administration, understanding Tricare benefits, or connecting you to a Veterans Service Organization (VSO). There is also a medical discussion board that supports alumni helping alumni in time of need.

VA BENEFITS

END OF LIFE SUPPORT

PARKINSON'S RESOURCES

MEDICAL FORUM

VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

LIVING WILL RESOURCES

RESOURCE LIBRARY

ALUMNI SUPPORT SERVICES HOME

TRICARE OPTIONS FOR RETIRED

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

COMPLEMENTARY AND INTEGRATED HEALTH OPTIONS

Health Resources Online

As part of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's (USNA AA&F) endeavor to expand its efforts to support alumni, the Alumni Support Services department created a medical facilitation webpage. This online resource is designed to be the ultimate "gouge" handbook for alumni when it comes to navigating the Veterans Administration, understanding Tricare benefits or connecting to a Veterans Service Organization (VSO).

Visitors to www.usna.com/alumni-support-services-medical-facilitation will find information on the following topics:

- VA Benefits
- Living Will Resources
- VSO's
- Mental Health Services
- TRI Care Options
- Parkinson's Resources
- End of Life Support
- Integrated Health Options



There is also a medical discussion board on myusna.com that supports alumni helping alumni in times of need. In addition, USNA AA&F will start providing quarterly health webinars starting in late April. The first webinar will be on VA Benefits.

In addition to the medical facilitation site, Alumni Support Services is focused on assisting alumni with its career programs, continuing education, coaching and mentorship, memorial services and alumni spouse support. The new landing page that houses all these resources can be accessed by going to usna.com and choosing "Alumni Support Services" from the "Find and Connect" or "Events and Programs" drop down menus. Over this first year we are identifying where we are leading activities, where we are partnering with others and where we are just facilitating information. The Alumni Support Services department will be built over the next three years.

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS	
Decision Lens.....	23
Falcons Landing.....	27
Huntington Ingalls.....	1
Montana 300.....	IFC
Navy Museum.....	9
Navy Mutual.....	29
Oakview Capital.....	19
Providence Point.....	15
Sono 1420 Distillery.....	31
StratasCorp Technologies.....	BC
USAA.....	21, IBC
USNA Foundation.....	32
Alumni Products and Services	
Service Academy	
Career Conference 2024.....	13

HISTORIC COMMAND

DAVIDS '89 TAKES HELM AS SUPERINTENDENT



PHOTO BY MCI ROBERT BALDOCK COURTESY OF USNA

Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Lisa Franchetti (right) congratulates VADM Yvette Davids '89, USN (left), during the 11 January change of command ceremony in Memorial Hall. VADM Fred Kacher '90, USN (middle), served as the Naval Academy's 64th Superintendent before handing the reins to Davids.

Stars descended upon Memorial Hall for a historic moment in early January.

Retired and active-duty flag officers, current and former Secretaries of the Navy and Chiefs of Naval Operations, Distinguished Graduates and barrier-breaking trailblazers were among those who packed the solemn chamber on 11 January to witness Vice Admiral Yvette Davids '89, USN, officially take the reins as the Academy's 65th Superintendent from Vice Admiral Fred Kacher '90, USN.

The change of command ceremony drew what Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Lisa Franchetti called more than 2,700 years of "inspirational leadership." Members of the Classes of 1989 and 1990, Women's Shared Interest Group, Naval Academy Minority Association and several West Point alumnae were in attendance to witness Davids become the first woman to serve as the Academy's Superintendent.

Davids' term as Superintendent was delayed by six months thanks to a senatorial hold on all flag officer promotions. At the time of the change of command ceremony, Kacher was awaiting his promotion to vice admiral and was scheduled to head to Yokosuka, Japan, to serve as commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet.

Franchetti said the outpouring of VIPs in attendance reflected the impact Davids and Kacher have had on the Naval Academy and the Navy.

"That is a fitting tribute and a testament to the incredible support that these two officers have," said Franchetti, the first woman to serve as CNO.

In addition to family and friends, the change of command ceremony drew Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83; former Secretaries of the Navy John H. Dalton '64 and Kenneth J. Braithwaite '84; former CNO Admiral Michael Gilday '85, USN (Ret.); former Superintendent Vice Admiral Sean S. Buck '83, USN (Ret.);

Admiral Michael G. Mullen '68, USN (Ret.); General John R. Allen '76, USMC (Ret.); Admiral Mark E. Ferguson '78, USN (Ret.); Michelle J. Howard '82, USN (Ret.); Rear Admiral Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.); and Lieutenant General Lori Reynolds '86, USMC (Ret.).

Maryland Governor Wes Moore and Annapolis Mayor Gavin Buckley were also in attendance.

Dauids appreciated the support from mentors, her trailblazing predecessors, classmates and Naval Academy sailing teammates. She accepts the responsibility of preparing midshipmen to lead with honor and integrity once they commission into the fleet or Marine Corps.

"The Naval Academy bears the torch for our culture, and I am so grateful for this opportunity to serve as keeper of the flame," Dauids said. "I am beyond honored to become the 65th Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy, and I look back on the experiences of those before me to guide the way ahead."

Dauids thanked Kacher for his "tremendous example of leadership" during his tenure as Superintendent. She noted that her husband, Rear Admiral Keith B. Dauids '90, USN, and Kacher shared a common fault.

"They were only one year off from the greatest class ever," Dauids joked.

Unwavering Responsibility

While interspersing humor in her address, Dauids acknowledged the Academy's essential mission. She advised the Brigade of Midshipmen to absorb the lessons of those who came before them while preparing to confront the ever-evolving threats they'll face after graduation.

She encouraged current and future midshipmen to strive for exceedingly higher levels of excellence.

"The Navy continues to adapt and to grow, breaking down institutional barriers to allow growth to produce war-fighting readiness and to enable the fullest expression of our core values," Dauids said. "That adaptability is also what we ask of our midshipmen, that they learn from the past and that they continue to challenge themselves ... Every generation of commissioned officers is better than the last."

Dauids, whose father served 27 years as an Army officer, arrived in Annapolis from San Diego, CA, where she was acting commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Command. Her career as a surface warfare officer



VADM Yvette Dauids '89, USN, with her twin sons, Kai and Kiernan, following the 11 January change of command ceremony in Memorial Hall.



"Today means we now have representation from a leadership perspective for women where we haven't ever, in the history of the United States Naval Academy. As a graduate of this fine institution, I feel like today the Naval Academy has come full circle. It's well overdue and I look forward to great things from Admiral Dauids."

—Rhonda Scott '97,
Women's Shared Interest Group director



"For alumnae, it's really a great day. It's going to be a game-changer."

—Linda Postenrieder '82,
Women's Shared Interest Group president



"It was an honor just to be in the room today. It's a huge day. It's been a long time coming."

—Kendra Chappell '94,
Women's Shared Interest Group treasurer



"It's not just today, but that she's leading going forward and demonstrating the possibilities for everybody to lead."

—Colonel MJ Pallotta '94, USMCR



"It's an incredible honor to be in attendance for a historical event. The 64 superintendents who came before her have all had something in common and Admiral Davids is breaking the mold. It's incredible to know our Academy is in such great hands."

—Lieutenant Joe Cordona '15, USN, Athletic & Scholarship Programs trustee



"Congratulations and welcome to Vice Admiral Davids. She is a warfighter, a trailblazer, and the embodiment of Naval Academy alumni

service and achievement. I am eager to see the impact she will have on the institution and most importantly the Brigade of Midshipmen on her watch. Admiral Davids is a highly energetic leader and I am excited for our work ahead."

—Jeff Webb '95, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association president and CEO



PHOTO BY STACY GODFREY, COURTESY OF USNA

Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro '83 presents the end of tour award to VADM Fred Kacher '90, USN, during a 11 January change of command ceremony at the Naval Academy. Kacher, who relinquished the reins as Superintendent to VADM Yvette Davids '89, USN, was preparing to head to Yokosuka, Japan, to serve as commander of the United States Seventh Fleet.

includes commanding CURTIS, BUNKER HILL and Carrier Strike Group 11. She deployed in support of Desert Shield/Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Her assignment to CURTIS in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom in 2007 made her the first Hispanic American woman to command a Navy warship.

In 1990, Davids began a three-year assignment aboard SAN JOSE, a combat stores ship deployed in support of operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. During that deployment, Davids was ordered to BUNKER HILL from SAN JOSE. She needed special permission to board the ship because at the time women were not allowed to serve in combat zones.

She served as executive officer of the destroyer HIGGINS during the initial combat operations of Iraqi Freedom. Twenty years after she first stepped aboard BUNKER HILL, Davids assumed command of the ship and served as air defense commander for the Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group.

Davids is a 2002 graduate of the Naval War College with a master of arts in national security and strategic studies and a 2012 graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces with a master of science in national resource strategy.

During her remarks in Memorial Hall, Davids thanked the women of the Class of 1980, the Academy's first alumnae.

"They were the trailblazers who sailed into uncharted waters and opened the path for all women at the United States Naval Academy," Davids said. "I am so grateful for your courage, outreach and support."

Del Toro lauded Davids' leadership credentials. He expects she will be a role model for all midshipmen.

"She is indeed the very representative of everything that makes America special," Del Toro said. "Regardless of our race, our gender, where we came from, who we love, our nation, these United States provide opportunities to excel to those who work for it. Vice Admiral Davids, your career has led you to this moment. I could not be more excited for you to lead this school that we both love so much."

Franchetti spotlighted the precarious times in which Davids is assuming command of the Naval Academy. Conflicts in Israel, Ukraine and in the

Red Sea, illustrate the significance of training the next generation of warfighters to lead immediately upon commissioning.

“Our forces are facing a complex and rapidly changing opponent,” Franchetti said. “They are facing multi-faceted threats, ones that require leaders of character. Leaders who are prepared to be bold, who have the agility to think, act and operate differently to preserve the peace and respond to the aggressors.

“Having a leader like Yvette Davids at the helm of the United States Naval Academy at this critical time, should give us all the utmost confidence that the ensigns and second lieutenants of the Class of 2024 and beyond will be ready to answer all bells wherever and whenever they are called to duty. You are breaking new ground here and you are the right person at the right time to do it.”

Davids embraced the challenge.

“Your success is our nation’s success,” Davids said. “The training you receive here will prepare you well to serve in this time of great consequence where the stakes have never been higher.”

Dream Realized

Kacher assumed the role as acting Superintendent in August 2023. He thanked Del Toro and Franchetti for the opportunity.

“Thank you both for your leadership and faith in me as I embarked upon a job that every midshipman at one point dreams about, even if just for a second,” Kacher said. “I’m confident I leave the Academy on firm footing just as it was left to me. For the second time in my life, I can say 33 years after the first time, I leave the United States Naval Academy more grateful and more prepared for the adventure ahead where I plan to do my utmost to earn this nation’s trust every day.”

Kacher said the Brigade of Midshipmen inspired him.

“It was a privilege to join our midshipmen as they committed to serve at ‘2 for 7’ night, celebrated at pep rallies, competed all over the Yard and country and earned their service assignments as future leaders in the Navy and Marine Corps,” he said.

Franchetti thanked Kacher and his staff for upholding the Academy’s mission to prepare midshipmen mentally, morally and physically while providing stability during the transition period.

“You made sure, whatever turbulence there was, it did not affect the Brigade or the mission of the Naval Academy,” Franchetti said. “Your unwavering dedication to execute the mission of the Naval Academy made sure this academic year, the reforming of the Brigade and everything that goes with it got off to a great start.” ⚓



SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION



The National Museum of the United States Navy Campus provides the perfect platform for powerful storytelling. The Campus will connect the U.S. Navy’s legacy of service, courage, honor and loyalty with the absolute imperatives confronting it today, including forward presence, advanced technologies, energy balance and humanitarian assistance. It is vital that the American people understand the importance of a strong and viable naval force. As a maritime nation, our future depends on it. Scan the QR code to support the project and learn more.

NAVY MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION | WASHINGTON, DC | NMDF.ORG

CONTRIBUTOR'S NOTE:

I have had many a male role model and mentor over the years, which for me and other women was a necessity due to the lack of senior women in the Navy in the 1980s. I'm grateful to have found such engaged and supportive leaders. My mentors included men like Commander Gary E. Cerezo '79, USN (Ret.), Captain Roger Onorati '61, USN (Ret.), Captain Dale Lumme '80, USN (Ret.), Commander John Dillon '72, USNR (Ret.), and Captain Rusty Yeiser '74, USN (Ret.), who treated me and other women fairly and with respect.

As we celebrate the historic event of Vice Admiral Yvette Davids '89, USN, taking command as the 65th Superintendent of the Naval Academy, we can look back at her career and the thousands of successful alumnae to understand the criticality of the role of men in building strong women leaders. While the success of alumnae is no doubt the result of their own merit, we do not want to overlook the moral courage of the men who step up as allies, especially at times when doing so is extremely challenging.

We in the Women's Shared Interest Group (SIG) asked Dave and Brad to pen this article in the spirit of the fellowship so pivotal to our alumni community and our military—and in recognition that misogyny is the real enemy in the fight for gender equality. We have come a long way since the day the Class of 1980 reported on I-Day, but reality is that the C-Suite, Congress and the Flag Mess remain overly dominated by men.

Issues such as sexual assault and challenges such as childcare are often seen as gendered, not core leadership considerations as important to our military's readiness as the number of hulls in our fleet. Now more than ever, we need men at all levels of our Navy, Marine Corps and Alumni Association to take an active role in addressing the perceived and real challenges women have, to extend a seat at the table to someone different from themselves and to create a culture where the merit of one's work is the focus, and where each individual is given room to contribute meaningfully and lead, regardless of gender.

We believe that the vast majority of our USNA community is filled with as much pride for the accomplished women of USNA as we are, and we hope that through some of the tools described in this article, we will see even more success stories in decades to come. Go Navy!"

—Linda “Postie” Postenrieder '82,
president, Women's Shared Interest Group

RISING ATHENAS AND WHAT GREAT MALE ALLIES DO

By Captain David G. Smith '87, USN (Ret.), and W. Brad Johnson

There has been significant progress toward improving command climate, organizational culture and retention and advancement of women. These are the outcomes that our naval profession and Naval Academy have achieved through efforts to increase gender diversity and equity over the past four and half decades. Evidence of progress is palpable for anyone who experienced the Naval Academy in the 1980s, returns today and spends time with midshipmen. Gender dynamics in Bancroft Hall, classrooms and on athletic fields are markedly different—in a good way!

Yet, it's no secret that women face significant disadvantages in the military and that these inequities negatively impact mission effectiveness, families' health and stability and our national security broadly. Cultural change is hard work. Management gurus emphasize the importance of stakeholders—key decision makers and influencers—demonstrating openness to change and showcasing evidence on the connection between gender equity and mission achievement. Male leaders who publicly support gender equity and inclusion have been called “tempered radicals” because they are cultural insiders (men) with an outsider perspective (the value of gender equity)—and they are often the key to cultural change. Over the last four and a half decades, women have been working to complete gender integration in our profession. There has also been a core group of male allies (tempered radicals) showing up. Any woman affiliated with the Naval Academy can tell you who these men are.

As two former naval officers, we are fascinated by this question: What does world class male allyship for gender equity look like? In other words, what do these men actually do to promote the equitable inclusion of women at the Academy and in the fleet? We are also both professors,

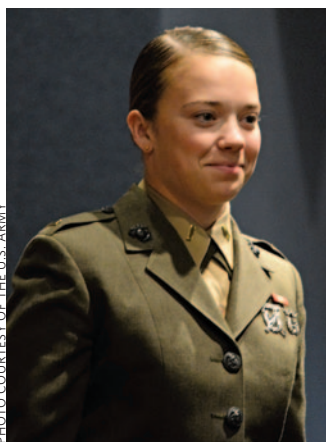


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. ARMY

“He [my staff platoon commander] viewed me just as a Marine. Not a female Marine; not a small, short Marine; just a Marine like any other male Marine who wanted to be an infantry officer or artillery officer.”

—Capt Virginia Brodie '15, USMC

Capt Virginia Brodie '15, USMC, was one of the first two female Marine artillery officers who graduated from the Basic Officer Leader Course on 17 May 2016 at Fort Sill. She earned a place at the top of her class.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY

Tabitha Strobel '10 was part of the first cohort of women to serve on submarines. Like many women entering traditionally male-dominated spaces, Strobel felt it necessary to be deliberate when seeking advice from male colleagues to avoid misconstrued perceptions.

researchers and social scientists who value and leverage research evidence. Our research yielded some consistent themes: A lot of men recognize the toll that codified sexism and inequity exacts from their mothers, sisters, daughters and women colleagues. They grasp both the organizational and team performance case and the moral imperative for full gender inclusion in the workplace. They see equity and equality as an expression of their commitment to dignity and respect, and they are eager to learn how to show up as better allies for women at work. In other words, there are a lot of good guys out there who are creating change and even more who just aren't sure what to do and how to get started.

So, we created an ally playbook for the average dude, a guide for men on showing up as a genuine accomplice, collaborator and advocate with women in creating a workplace that works for everyone. To do it, we interviewed lots of women, each a leader in her field, and asked them what genuine male allies actually *did* in behavioral terms. Several of these women are highlighted in this article so that you hear their voices and what was most impactful from their perspective. Many women nominated a specific male ally as an exceptional exemplar. We interviewed those men too. And in doing so, we discovered something else: There's a lot in this for men who do allyship well. Men who often collaborate

and partner with women at work have wider networks, better access to information, stronger friendships, increased emotional intelligence, better work outcomes and recognition for their inclusive style of leadership.

What follows are highlights of some of the salient ally actions gleaned from our research and included in our books *Good Guys: How Men Can Become Better Allies for Women in the Workplace* and *Athena Rising: How and Why Men Should Mentor Women*. We define allyship as actively promoting fairness and equity in the workplace through supportive and collaborative personal relationships and public acts of sponsorship and advocacy intended to drive systemic improvements in the workplace culture.

We'll start with some of the interpersonal actions and move on to some public actions that require some serious courage and fortitude to create sustainable change in everyday practices that affect everyone.

Interpersonal Allyship

Allies saw women as competent leaders with potential and learned to overcome biased perceptions of women at work. Recalling her experience breaking the direct ground combat barrier, Captain Virginia Brodie '15, USMC, explained how an ally believed in her, opened doors and ushered her into the Marine Corps' first Artillery School class with women.

"He was my staff platoon commander, an infantry officer in charge of my platoon," Brodie said. "He's responsible for counseling and career guidance for MOS. He viewed me just as a Marine. Not a female Marine; not a small, short Marine; just a Marine like any other male Marine who wanted to be an infantry officer or artillery officer. He saw me as an artillery officer, but the only problem was the law didn't allow that yet. His plan was to set me up for success with an MOS that would help me become an artillery officer later on in my career." In Captain Brodie's case, it happened sooner than expected.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LTCOL AMY MCGRATH '97, USMC (RET.)

LtCol Amy McGrath '97, USMC (Ret.), was the first woman Marine Corps pilot to fly the F/A-18 on a combat mission. She appreciated the efforts of men who mentor their women colleagues.

Some men also had concerns over how other male colleagues might perceive them when they support, mentor and advocate for women in their unit—but not allies. Women feel this wariness too and purposefully work to manage situations to avoid giving people something to talk about. Tabitha Strobel '10 described this in her experience in the first cohort of women to serve on submarines.

“Perceptions were certainly an issue,” Strobel said. “I always kept that in mind whenever I was seeking out advice. If I wanted to ask my chief a question or needed advice from him, I would always be very deliberate. I never really hung around in the division spaces. That wasn’t my hangout, that’s my workplace. I just go there to do the job that I have to do, to make sure things were going well, and then I would leave.”

“I thought that was really important because on a submarine your workspace is your personal space. I tried to be very deliberate in where I was going and why I was there.”

In our research we found that men who lean into allyship with women at work leveraged various motivations. First, we often heard narratives that challenged their sense of fairness when a woman they knew personally or professionally (family member, friend, work peer, mentee, mentor) shared how she had been unfairly treated through biased or discriminatory behavior—



ADM Michelle Howard '82, USN (Ret.), was the first Black woman to reach flag rank and the first woman to wear four stars. She appreciated how her male mentor “remembered the unique position I was in as both a woman and minority.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF CDR MICHAEL WISECUP '98, USN (RET.)

“I would make sure to seek their [women] input, so that the guys in the room who had the most experience and had that alpha male bravado didn’t steal the show just because they were the ones who talked first.”

—CDR Michael Wisecup '98, USN (Ret.)

CDR Michael Wisecup '98, USN (Ret.), employed a “pull” attitude by asking specific and direct questions to women during meetings to ensure they were heard.

injustice was a powerful motivator. Lieutenant Colonel Amy McGrath '97, USMC (Ret.), recalled her experiences with men as allies.

“The best allies and mentors while I was in the Marine Corps, were racial minorities—usually African American men. These men had a better understanding through their own personal experiences that they needed to reach out to me. They understood what it meant to be isolated and that the deck is stacked against you, so they were more readily available to connect.”

Second, in a military setting we often heard men talk about doing what’s right for people. It’s a part of their leadership style. Finally, more leaders today understand the compelling research evidence that shows how our teams and organizations are more effective when the composition is more diverse and inclusive.

Allies pushed back on false narratives about the risks of engaging with women at work and treated their own anxiety by deliberately initiating more conversations, friendships and mentorships with female colleagues—*exposure therapy*. It’s not enough to avoid harassing women—allies don’t ignore women either. You can’t lead women if you’re not willing to have one-on-one meetings with them. Full stop.

One of the keys to excellent allyship was developing awareness of how people may experience the workplace differently and how that affects performance. We like to think of this as sharpening our GQ—gender intelligence quotient—and allies started with self-educating and listening to people. It turns out that we can learn a lot when we don’t make too many assumptions about people and listen generously.

“When I first got to the submarine, my first captain had been there for a little more than a year,” Strobel said “He would often call the junior officer women to his office to see how we were doing. It was new having women on the submarine and he really wanted to make sure the process of integrating women went smoothly. I remember that he said that he was learning a lot from us.”

Men often are taken aback as they learn about the constant daily slights, dismissals and microaggressions that undermine women, making them feel unwelcome and devalued. Allies leveraged this GQ to create sustainable cultural change in their units.

Allies recognized that all women are not the same. Admiral Michelle Howard '82, USN (Ret.), emphasized the importance in her mentorship of how her male mentor “remembered the unique position I was in as both a woman and minority.” Be attuned to the unique experiences and

intersectional identities of the women you work with. For instance, women of color often feel entirely invisible and ignored at work; they face both sexism and racism and consequently suffer the greatest advancement and retention disparities.

Men as allies sharpened their situational awareness: they were vigilant in observing how their female colleagues were experiencing meetings and other team dynamics, while staying alert to inequities and gendered headwinds in these contexts. Here are a few examples of dynamics you should attend to:

- Who isn't in the room and should be?
- Who is sitting at the table?
- Who is doing all the speaking?
- Who is getting interrupted or having her ideas dismissed or stolen—"bro-propriated?"
- Who's doing the office housework—administrative nonpromotable tasks?

One of the men we interviewed, Commander Michael Wisecup '98, USN (Ret.), related how he approached this with his SEAL Team.

"I approached people in the workplace with a 'pull' attitude," Wisecup said. "In meetings, I would ask very specific and direct questions to those people who weren't normal contributors—I was most aware of that with women, especially those who might be more junior.

"I would make sure to seek their input, so that the guys in the room who had the most experience and had that alpha male bravado didn't steal the show just because they were the ones who talked first."

Allies like Wisecup noticed these dynamics, then disrupted them. They pulled women's contributions into the conversation, amplified them and ensured that women were credited for their ideas.

Without hesitation, allies included women. These men combatted belonging uncertainty and impostor feelings among women on their teams by inviting them to all work-connected gatherings. When we asked Rear Admiral Margaret "Peg" Klein '81, USN (Ret.), about including women, she said, "It does no good if women fight effectively to gain admission but then nobody ever makes them feel



PHOTO BY SPENCER JONES

RADM Margaret "Peg" Klein '81, USN (Ret.), is a 2022 Naval Academy Distinguished Graduate Award honoree. She said male allies made her feel part of the team.

that they belong. Women want to be part of the team. My allies showed in their behavior, once you're on the team, you're on the team, everyone is included. Each solution to making people feel included might be a little different so learn about her and what would make her feel a part of the team."

Allies didn't allow women to be excluded from key conversations. And if her ideas, people or programs were being discussed, they pushed back and asked that the meeting be rescheduled when she could be present—ideally leading the discussion.

S A C C

SERVICE ACADEMY CAREER CONFERENCE

New Location

CHICAGO, IL

9-10 MAY



Join us for the Service Academy
Career Conference in Chicago, IL.

SACC@usna.com ▪ sacc-jobfair.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE U.S. NAVY

Col Maria J "MJ" Pallotta '94, USMC (Ret.), said one of her allies pushed back on questions about his motivations for including women on his staff.

Public Allyship

Now it's time to see how male allies put some real skin in the game. Being a public ally requires you to hold others accountable for their actions—including your peers, shipmates and leaders. Real allies learned to live with any discomfort and overcame fear of being razzed by other men (aka, losing their "man card").

Let's start with this ally tactic: *See something? Say something:* Practice what we call ally watchdog skills. Notice sexist words and phrases, noninclusive language, harassing behavior and all manner of misogyny—too often cloaked in humor and bro-banter—and then show some spine and disrupt it. Effective disruption requires you to say something quickly—before bystander paralysis sets in. And when you say something, you've got to own it—don't attribute your disruption to the fact that there's a woman in the room.

Here's a great example from Rear Admiral Klein. "I had a squadron commander who was very aware of guys' behavior around women—especially on deployment. Whenever a group of guys would start talking or behaving in a way that was inappropriate or disrespectful to women, he would shut it down hard. As a policy matter, he demanded that women had safe spaces to work and that they were not subject to the juvenile behavior of some men."

Allies sponsored and advocated for women loudly. Women get less sponsoring

and advocacy than men and allies don't wait for someone else—another woman—to advocate for her. Major Katie Higgins Cook '08, USMCR, expressed how important having a male advocate was in her career.

"My reputation in the plane spoke for itself. It was a lot of Major Michael Valenti's efforts in getting that reputation known. As with any person in the squadron, he advocated for those he felt were advanced or ready for higher qualifications. I just happened to be one of those people.

"I worked really hard and was appreciative that he spoke on my behalf. When he spoke up about my performance, other people I flew with backed up his opinion of me and that's how I moved forward so quickly."

Male allies worked at overcoming concern about what others might think and got busy talking—positively—about talented women when they weren't in the room. They were her raving fan, touted her potential and called out her wins when upcoming opportunities and promotions were discussed. They shared some social capital, nominated her for stretch opportunities, then provided top cover and had her back so she was set up for success.

We'd be remiss if we didn't mention one last best practice—committed male allies were comfortable being uncomfortable talking about gender diversity and why it was important to them. Colonel Maria J. "MJ" Pallotta '94, USMC (Ret.), described how one of her allies approached pushback or questioning about his motivations for gender equity.

"He was very supportive of women and would actually select women to his staff when other men would not, because he saw they were competent. About 30 percent of his staff was women which was quite unusual. So, he took crap and teasing for surrounding himself with women and building a 'harem.' But he was the kind of guy who didn't care and would push back. He'd say 'I pick the best officers. Period.'

"He'd be very vocal and forthright about it. For him to be that vocal in supporting women and not tolerating the pushback was awesome!"

Male allies, especially those in leadership roles, mitigated any personal discomfort about professional relationships with women at work by engaging more of them as colleagues, mentees, mentors and friends. They demonstrated clarity and commitment by clearly talking about why gender diversity was important to them personally and how it directly connected to their organization's mission. Men who listen generously to women they work with, ask about their gendered experiences, then hold themselves and others accountable to make sure women are fully and respectfully included on the team—those are the real allies that we should all aspire to be. ⚓

CAPT David G. Smith '87, USN (Ret.), is an associate professor at Johns Hopkins University Carey Business School and W. Brad Johnson is a Naval Academy psychology professor in the department of leadership, ethics and law. They co-wrote Athena Rising: How and Why Men Should Mentor Women and Good Guys: How Men Can be Better Allies for Women in the Workplace.

ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL BOND: MARRIED ALUMNI



The relationships we begin and foster while living in Bancroft Hall, Mother B, are often the most lasting and significant. For many, the most meaningful relationship results in marriage, most often with wedding bells right after graduation. For some, connecting with an alumni spouse happens in the fleet/ Marine Corps, at a concert, through athletic endeavors or common interest events.

There are many married alumni among us. In fact, there are more than 1,000 married alumni couples as of December 2023, according to information submitted by alumni to the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation's database.

You may already know some alumni couples including Shannon (Revell) Webb '04 and Jeff Webb '95, Sharon (Hanley) Disher '80 and Commander Tim Disher '81, USN (Ret.), and Vice Admiral Yvette (Gonzalez) Davids '89, USN, and Rear Admiral Keith Davids '90, USN.

The Naval Academy Alumni Association's Women's Shared Interest Group (WSIG) gathered input from married alumni about their experiences, challenges and the unique perspectives of having a spouse who commissioned through the Academy. Not all submissions could be printed, but all the responses can be found on Women's SIG myUSNA.com under Forums with the title "Establishing a Special Bond."

Here are some of their stories.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE VISORS

Gina (Hopson) Visor '00 and Shawn Visor '01 met at the Naval Academy in September 1999. They leaned on each other and their shared experiences during four deployments.

GINA VISOR '00 AND SHAWN VISOR '01

Gina and Shawn Visor were deployed four times. Gina said, "without question, having a spouse that 'gets it' is what helped us during the difficult separation periods."

"Women service members are often overlooked and their contributions are minimized," Gina said. "I was deployed during 9/11. Having a spouse at home that understood and fully supported me kept me strong."

Gina and Shawn met at the Naval Academy in September 1999. Shawn played basketball while Gina played women's rugby and sang in gospel choir.

Shawn commissioned as a surface warfare officer while Gina was a nuclear SWO. Gina said sharing the common experience of a Naval Academy education with her husband helped her as a junior officer in the fleet.

"Being a woman in the U.S. Navy is tough mentally and physically," Gina said. "I never had to explain my experience to Shawn, as we were both enduring it together. He respected my desire to serve our country."

Gina and Shawn married in 2001 in Norfolk, VA, and have two boys.

CAPTAIN PEGGY A. FELDMANN '80, USN (RET.), AND ANDY BROWER '79



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPT PEGGY A. FELDMANN '80, USN (RET.)

CAPT Peggy A. Feldmann '80, USN (Ret.), and Andy Brower '79 met during Peggy's plebe year at the Naval Academy. They married in 1981 and their daughter, ENS Addie Brower '19, USN, followed her parents' path to Annapolis.

In 1976, as a plebe, I met my future husband, Andy Brower, who was a third class midshipman. We were in the same company (12th). Back then, dating within the same company was not an issue. We did not start dating until I was a second class midshipman and he was a firstie and we kept our dating on the lowdown for at least six months.

Only in the spring of 1979 did some of his classmates give me heart-to-heart talks about dating him.

I think they would have given me the same lecture about any midshipman; I was everyone's sister. He was the only midshipman I dated at Navy. Everyone talked about how the women had only come to USNA to find a husband and it was not on my mind; that I fell in love was surprising!

Andy went surface line (Charleston, SC) and was deployed most of my first class year. I matriculated into the Mission Essential Meteorological and Oceanographic Center (METOC) community and was stationed in Bay St. Louis, MS. We married in my hometown, San Antonio, TX, in September 1981. Part of our honeymoon was spent in Washington, DC, as I was working on a project that involved many months of travel to Keflavik, Iceland. We did not live together the first two and a half years we were married.

After Andy left the Navy, we met up in Monterey, CA, where I was at the Naval Postgraduate School, and Andy attended the Monterey Institute of International Studies. He received his master's in international business and was licensed as a certified public accountant. His CPA work allowed him to easily move with my Navy assignments. I was working in R&D/program management and traveling. It was refreshing to come home to a spouse who understood the way the Navy worked, my time commitments, not having to explain every detail and knowing the different Navy personalities.

After being married 15 years, our daughter, Addie, was born in 1996 and our son, Cory, 4 years later. Ensign Addie Brower '19, USN, is married to a 2019 classmate, First Lieutenant Greyson W. Cauley, USMC. Their marital journey is eerily similar to ours but they have added the two-service complexity! Today, the services work harder to accommodate meaningful co-location.

Cory received an appointment to the Class of 2025 and declined. Recently, I realized just how full circle my Naval Academy experience has taken me. After Cory declined his appointment, I told him one of the reasons I had wanted him to attend the Academy was to find a wife—like his sister and the confident women there today. Someone who knows what it means to lead and to serve; who is a team player and has grit; one who would be willing to say, "Sure, I'll hike the 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail with you, even though I've never hiked before and am 65 years old." Andy and I completed the trail on 10 August 2023.

MORGEN (PAUL) TEN HOOPEN '94 AND CAPTAIN DOUG TEN HOOPEN '87, USN (RET.)

They met on the quarterdeck of NIMITZ (her homeport was Bremerton, WA, at the time) pier side NAS North Island in October 1995. Morgen was an ensign, Doug was a lieutenant. NIMITZ was her ship (she was the OI DIVO) and he reported for duty as the assistant navigator.

"Very simply, we spoke each other's language, acronyms and all," Morgen said. "I feel like all our communication had (still has) an easy shortcut. That was one of those moments, like when you blanked on all your squadmates' hometowns Plebe Summer."

Morgen commissioned into the surface warfare community while Doug flew SH-60 Bs.

"There's a depth of understanding—a bond that underlies all our decision making and parenting," Morgen said. "It's super tricky to raise kids, right? Understatement of the century—but we knew that we understood each other on almost a cellular level as we made each big decision and all the microdecisions that form your life."

They were married at the Naval Academy Chapel in May 1998. Doug and Morgen have three daughters, Ensign Anna ten Hoopen '22, USN, Heidi ten Hoopen and Midshipman Lael ten Hoopen '27.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TEN HOOPENS

Morgen (Paul) ten Hoopen '94 and CAPT Doug ten Hoopen '87, USN (Ret.), met aboard NIMITZ in October 1995.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ENS SHANNON DILLMAN '19, USN

ENS Shannon Dillman '19, USN, and ENS Jacob Burns '19, USN, met during a summer internship at MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Boston, MA, in 2017.

JACOB BURNS '19 AND SHANNON DILLMAN '19

Jacob and I met on a summer internship at MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Boston, MA, during second class summer in 2017. We dated during second class and first class year at the Academy.

Strengthening my relationship with Jacob and spending more time with him did result in sacrificing time with my own company. Other than that, there was no noticeable impact of us dating while at school. After completing my training pipeline for submarines, we got married in September 2020 in Mount Pleasant, SC, while Jacob was finishing up training in Charleston.

We have found that having the shared experience of both the Naval Academy and being submariners has definitely strengthened our relationship. During the first year we were married, we were only together for three weeks, however through the sporadic emails and phone calls we shared that year, we could relate to and empathize with what the other was experiencing.

There was little frustration with the lack of contact because we were having the same experience, though we were thousands of miles apart. It was more difficult being at home with a boat in the shipyard while Jacob was on deployment than it was for us to both be underway. Even then, without any contact from him or his boat, I could still guess at what he and his fellow junior officers were participating in.

I don't remember any gender discrimination at the Naval Academy, even being the minority (albeit, a growing minority) gender. However, the submarine force, in my experience, is still adapting to having gender-integrated wardrooms and crews. Though I have not experienced any blatant issues with gender discrimination, there have been frequent enough reminders that the integration of women on submarines is still a work in progress.

Jacob's boat was integrated with three women officers during his time on board, so he has observed the integration of women as well.

RHONDA (LEVERETT) SCOTT '97 AND CAPTAIN BILL SCOTT '97, USN (Ret.)

Bill and I met at NAPS and upon reporting to the Academy we were both in 9th Company. We didn't really know each other that well at NAPS, but we became friends at the Academy. We were in the same company for three years, but our company was selected to be scrambled when the Brigade shifted from 36 to 30 companies during renovations.

We found a common bond through our lived experiences. We are each the oldest children in our families with siblings who are at least nine or more years younger. Our life stories parallel each other's in many ways. Our shared experience at the Academy allowed each of us to lean on one another when we needed assistance with anything.

Bill was the editor of papers while I was the calculus tutor. As junior officers, we had the challenge of not being in branches of the military that could easily be collocated. We were each stationed in Oklahoma for our final duty stations with a 45-minute commute in opposite directions while raising our first child. We each knew what we were signing up for because of our Academy experience.

Bill selected USMC and served as an artillery officer from 1997-2003. I received my commission in the United States Air Force and served as a weather officer from 1997-2004.

We dated at USNA. Bill and I had a friendship before we began dating so I am not sure anyone knew we were dating other than our close friends.

We had a destination wedding in the Bahamas with family and friends in September 2000.

Having an alumni spouse is great because you don't have to explain why nothing is scheduled the second Saturday in December. The shared alumni experience allowed us to see what we each could offer each other. For example, when either of us had to deploy there was no concern with whether we could take care of any aspect of the household. We each were accustomed to supporting the mission of our respective services.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SCOTT'S

Rhonda (Leverett) Scott '97 and CAPT Bill Scott '97, USN (Ret.), met at the Naval Preparatory School and both were in 9th Company at the Naval Academy.

CAPTAIN LAUREN RIFFLE-GONZALEZ '15, USMC, AND GABY RIFFLE-GONZALEZ '17



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE RIFFLE-GONZALEZS

CAPT Lauren Riffle-Gonzalez '15, USMC, and Gaby Riffle-Gonzalez '17 started dating in summer of 2016. Lauren was the first woman Series Commander and Company Commander for a male training battalion in the history of the U.S. Marine Corps at Parris Island.

Through shared experiences and stories of plebe year, various summer trainings and Service Selection of Marine Corps, Lauren and Gaby had a profound and unspoken bond of understanding, shared hardships and most importantly shared aspirations and dreams. “Throughout our time as junior officers, our bond became intuitive and was vital to our success,” Lauren said. “The compassion, support and consideration we shared for one another propelled our careers forward, while we had different Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) and were in different units, the Marine Corps ethos, training and core values were woven into our relationship.”

They first met at one of Lauren’s indoor track meets. They officially started dating in the summer of 2016, when Lauren was completing her MOS school training pipeline in Twentynine Palms, CA.

Lauren proposed prior to deploying to Afghanistan in 2018. Their wedding was delayed two months due to Gaby’s deployment to Norway. They were married in November 2019 on a beach on North Topsail in North Carolina. Their first duty station together was Camp Lejeune where they purchased their first home together.

Gaby said having someone who spoke her “language” made all the difference at the Academy and after commissioning into the Corps.

“It was always difficult to go home and try to explain to my relatives, who had no prior exposure to the military, what I was going through,” she said. “With Lauren, that was easy. Not only did she understand what I was going through at USNA, but as we entered the Marine Corps and dealt with everything active-duty life offered, we continued to be one another’s rocks.”

Lauren said she and Gaby have a shared virtue and sense of duty in a volunteer service. Their goals and ambitions have been closely aligned since day one, she said.

“It is hard to put into words and express admiration and appreciation for our shared lineage,” Lauren said.

Gaby said it was “incredible to mutually share my early adulthood story with my spouse.”

“We have empathy for one another in ways no one else does,” Gaby said. “We’ve experienced what I’d consider the most difficult part of each of our lives together, and we’ve weathered it all. I’m never very worried or scared nowadays when adversity comes our way knowing what we’ve gone through together.

“I’m excited for our kids to grow up having two moms who were BOTH USNA grads, BOTH USMC officers and BOTH highly educated. We’ve had an incredible story so far and only have more to accomplish.”

Lauren was the first woman to serve as series commander and company commander for a male training battalion in the history of the United States Marine Corps at MCRD Parris Island.

“I can’t accurately describe how impactful that is in words,” Gaby said. “And now, everything is being integrated shortly after her tenure there. Her successful performance has something to do with that. We both served with infantry units on deployments.

“I have some disappointing sea stories that I could share with you, but I won’t. That’s why I’m out of the service now and breaking glass ceilings as an entrepreneur. But all of that to say, I greatly respect and admire my wife for her undying devotion and efforts to make the Marine Corps a better place for women and Marines in general.”



OAKVIEW

— CAPITAL —

Tysons Corner, VA

INVEST IN MORTGAGE LOANS

Real Estate Secured Investments*

Properties in and around DC Metro

Loans Average 6 to 12 months

High Yields*

You Choose the Loans

You choose the amount to invest**

Interest paid out each month

For Details Call or Email

Robert Musseman '90

703-537-5101 (o) | robm@oakviewcapital.com

BEAT ARMY

*Note Participation Investments not guaranteed or insured by any governmental entity. Risk of loss. Read all materials and disclosures before investing. These note participation investments are not securities as defined by the Securities Act of 1933 as amended. **\$30,000 minimum investment in any single note.

**HAI (CAO) EASTMAN '91 AND
BRIGADIER GENERAL MIKE EASTMAN '91, USMA, USA (RET.)**

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAI (CAO) EASTMAN '91



Hai (Cao) Eastman '91 and BG Mike Eastman '91, USMA, USA (Ret.), met during a Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference in 1990.

We felt that our common academy experience helped shape our appreciation of each other. It still isn't easy with Mike's all-male command questioning why he has to share daycare pickup duties, something most guys thought were "mom duties," or my female commander demanding equal opportunity for Mike to share "chickenpox" leave because dads need to care for kids as well, even if he was in the middle of field time.

Mike and I met during a Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference in 1990;

Mike participated as a cadet in the field of political science, I majored in electrical engineering and volunteered to do lighting and sound checks. We dated since the second semester of our second class year. Classmates were very surprised at our pairing because he was a Woop.

Perhaps the shared military knowledge helped us understand the job commitment, and the long shifts that we had to serve. It was obvious after five years as we watched respective schoolmates' marriages dissolve, or other classmates struggle with finding their "missing piece." We felt that our common academy experience helped shape our appreciation of each other.

Mike was an artillery officer; he retired in October 2021 as a brigadier general. I was a general unrestricted line officer, specializing in scientific and technical intelligence (really submarine intel). I served for eight years that I bought back, and now I'm a senior financial management analyst at the U.S. Secret Service.

We were married a week after Mike's graduation, nine days after my graduation, on 8 June 1991. Neither academy thought our union was ideal and the Catholic priests there recommended we wait, as we have orders for schools and wouldn't be together for almost a year after our wedding, so we opted to get married at my parish in Annandale, VA. We have been a "house divided" for 32-plus years.

Mike witnessed unfair treatment to me during my active duty time, and supported me by volunteering to take on women when they were introduced to his branch. Mike's units were often rated as the top units for women integration. Having an alumni spouse also helped me understand what my classmates have to deal with during wartime deployments.

From Mike, "As a male officer, I never dealt with the sorts of harassment that Hai did as a junior officer. I felt like she had to prove herself in every command and exceed the expectations of her male counterparts in ways that I never did. This was not an issue at either academy, but became very apparent as soon as we entered the force."

We have three children, Christine, Katherine and John. We also have two grandchildren, Alexander and Kacey.

**KATHY (BRUZAS) HAUER '83 AND
COMMANDER KIM HAUER '81, USNR (RET.)**

Kim and Kathy were each part of 5th Company at the Academy. They started dating in the fall of Kathy's youngster year and Kim's firstie year. Kim commissioned into the submarine force while Kathy graduated from the College of William & Mary after departing the Academy at the end of her youngster year.

They married at St. Bede's Catholic Church in Williamsburg, VA, in September of 1983 after Kathy had graduated from William & Mary and before Kim headed out for his first submarine patrol. They said their experiences at the Naval Academy were quite different "but going to the Academy definitely made us stronger to deal with life in general. We didn't really talk specifically about the Naval Academy experience much. Kim had a fabulous experience; Kathy's was less so."

Although their experiences at the Academy differed, they shared a love for Navy that provided a solid foundation for their military family life.

"We're Navy all the way! Kim loved being in submarines and Kathy loved being a Navy wife." Knowing what being in the military meant from spending two years at USNA made it easier for Kathy to be a supportive Navy spouse. Plus, Kim is very funny, so Kathy was able to really get, and laugh hard at all the jokes and allusions.

Kathy found it amusing how many people asked her for decades after she left the service if she had "just gone to the Academy to find a husband."

Kim and Kathy have a son and a daughter who are each in their 30s. ⚓

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HAUERS



Kathy (Bruzaz) Hauer '83 and CDR Kim Hauer '83, USNR (Ret.), started dating in the fall of Kathy's youngster year and Kim's firstie year. They were members of 5th Company.

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

By Ed Linz '65

As my Naval Academy Class of '65 classmates and I approach the 59th anniversary of our graduation, I have found that one of life's pleasures is the monthly class luncheon, which is held at a restaurant in Annapolis. Roughly 20-to-30 of us from the local region attend each month.

The food is great, but the camaraderie is even better. I always try to sit near classmates whom I do not know well to learn of their experiences since our graduation.

The stories I heard were eye-openers for me. Following our graduation in June 1965, I went into submarines and spent the following 20 years both chasing Soviet subs on attack boats and hiding from them while on SSBN's. I am embarrassed to say that while I was on those submarines, the Vietnam War was essentially a total abstraction for me. I knew that our forces were there, that the American body count was increasing and that domestic opposition to U.S. participation was becoming a major political issue. But, I had Soviet submarines to chase while at sea and a new family to care for while in port.

Hearing first-hand accounts of the war from classmates during the monthly luncheons created a spark, which ignited my interest in gathering memories from a wide swath of classmates who had served



PHOTO COURTESY OF SIM PACE '65



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HONORABLE BOB ANDRETTA '65

in Vietnam. I had recently written a book of stories provided to me in the late 1990s about the Great Depression, and realized that a similar format of Marine and naval officer memories from my classmates needed to be captured while most of us were still alive to tell the stories.

I began interviews both in-person and via computer trying to capture as many aspects of our involvement in the Vietnam War as possible. Although I started with several classmates from the Annapolis lunches, I quickly expanded to others all over the U.S. It was encouraging to learn that essentially everyone I queried was eager to share their memories, even though some had never spoken to their own families about most of their experiences. Many were able to locate old photographs showing their involvement in the war. Often I was told, "You absolutely have to talk to _____."

Over the following 18 months, I gathered 62 stories from classmates who

Then-LT Bob Andretta '65, USN, (with friends) as advisor to South Vietnamese junk forces at CG -14 in July 1969.

Then-2ndLt Sim Pace '65, USMC, at camp near Hill 55, I Corps in May 1966.

served as Marines, aviators, CEC, supply, brown-water navy sailors, swift boat drivers and surface officers on ships conducting operations offshore. Many experienced difficulties while recounting deaths and serious injuries of friends and fellow combatants.

Several of those interviewed stated that they were extremely fortunate to be alive. There were stories of clandestine nighttime operations in North Vietnam while wearing the notorious “black pajamas;” secret operations into Cambodia; harrowing experiences driving swift boats for the first time through rivers from the Gulf of Thailand to the South China Sea; deadly firefights with North Vietnamese regulars near the DMZ; watching a wingman get shot down; setting ambushes for the enemy and being ambushed in return; incredibly dangerous assignments as advisers to Vietnamese navy junk forces and Vietnamese Marines; missions supposedly “safe” which turned deadly; air missions over the north flying through walls of flak; watching those nearby lose legs and worse



PHOTO COURTESY OF CDR SONNY HARRISON '65, USN (RET.)

Then-LT Sonny Harrison '65, USN, (in shorts) with his crew on one of his boats in the Mekong Delta during the spring of 1970. He would retire as a commander.



PPBE

The Future of

Software delivering
transparent, collaborative
and integrated financial
management and planning to
ensure the US Navy advances
our warfighting advantage.

 **DECISION LENS**

Learn more at: decisionlens.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF COL. FRED VOGEL '65, USMC (RET.)

Then-CAPT Fred Vogel '65, USMC, on a secret mission into North Vietnam in early 1971. He retired as a colonel in the Marine Reserve.

from mines stolen by the Viet Cong from South Vietnamese forces; the ever-present danger of carrier ops; ferrying Army troops on “monitors” on rivers and canals in the Mekong Delta; and an officer on a LST watching “Grave Registration Units” tagging body parts landed aboard by helos.

Of course, some of the stories contained gallows humor, which inevitably developed during the continuous stress of combat. Others discussed interesting assignments such as legal proceedings; one classmate’s shore duty was to ensure that every seat on R&R flights was filled. I was able to also hear stories from a classmate’s widow who was a flight attendant on many of those trips.

Once I had the stories, several classmates (and their wives) were instrumental in helping to put the book together, both in terms of suggestions and editing. The final product, *A Filthy Way to Die, Collected Memories of the Vietnam War*, is more than 450 pages. Essentially every classmate who has read the book and commented to me has expressed how little they knew about what was going on in other areas in Vietnam outside their specialty and how grateful they are to be able to learn what friends and classmates they didn’t know were doing following graduation. For each classmate I also included where they grew up, how they found themselves at the Naval Academy, what activities they participated in at the Academy, their photo from the *Lucky Bag* and what they did after Vietnam.

I intentionally referred to this conflict as a war, although it was never officially declared so by the U.S. government. The title is graphic and refers not only to the more than 58,000 young Americans who lost their lives during the war, but the three million Vietnamese and countless Cambodian and Laotians who perished. The book is dedicated to our nine classmates who lost their lives in this war.

I am hoping that other Naval Academy classes will make an effort to gather memories from representative groups of their classmates, not only for those who were involved in Vietnam, but also in the other hostilities and activities which have taken place since then. For those classes who graduated near ours, I would stress a sense of urgency to capture these stories while they are still available. There is a wealth of history waiting to be collected. ⚓

Ed Linz '65 served 20 years in submarines and commanded KAMEHAMEHA. He is the author of five books.

Editor’s Note: The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation is committed to documenting and sharing the stories and experiences of alumni throughout our nation’s military conflicts. This year, we are commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day with a series of stories featuring living World War II Naval Academy alumni. We are in the process of gathering stories from veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars. To share your story, please contact Shipmate Editor Jimmy DeButts at jimmy.debutts@usna.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADM MIKE LUECKE '65, USN (RET.)

Then-LT Mike Luecke '65, USN, climbs aboard his A-6 on CONSTELLATION on Yankee Station in 1968. He would retire as a rear admiral.



FIVE MINUTES WITH...

DARRYL SMITH '88

This feature spotlights the extraordinary things being done by alumni in the Navy and Marine Corps and their unique, impactful achievements in the private sector and in their communities. Please send suggestions to jimmy.debutts@usna.com

Darryl Smith '88 overcame academic challenges at the Naval Academy thanks, in part, to inspiring counsel from a Vietnam War hero. He is a former brigade boxing champion who commissioned into the Marine Corps and he served in Desert Storm.

Smith, who has an MBA from the Wharton School, transitioned to the private sector where he has served as a strategy consultant, entrepreneur and private equity investor. He continues to live a life of service as chairman of the board of advisers for the Dallas Salvation Army. He is also a trustee for the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Athletic and Scholarship Programs. He is as an independent director of the USA Boxing board and trustee of the USA Boxing foundation board.

Shipmate: What inspired you to seek a Naval Academy education?

Smith: I wanted to go to a military college because I wanted to serve my country as a military officer. I was introduced to the military during the summer before eighth grade when I attended the Devil Pups program at Camp Pendleton. I thought the Marines were a true meritocracy, where you were judged by your intelligence, physical fitness and grit. I was also impressed with the leadership and professionalism demonstrated by the NCOs and officers that ran Devil Pups.

I further developed my interest in the military through Army JROTC. I decided that I wanted to serve as an officer in either the Army or Marine Corps and applied to USNA, USMA and the Citadel. I chose USNA because I could seek a Marine commission and it was known to have the best academic reputation.

Shipmate: You've said Colonel John Ripley '62, USMC (Ret.), motivated you to persevere at the Academy when you faced tough times, how so?

Smith: Colonel Ripley offered me some words of encouragement that I remember to this day when faced with adversity. My grades suffered third class year when I won Brigade and Eastern College boxing titles and nearly won nationals. Preparation for my bouts required running each morning, training each afternoon in the boxing gym and making weigh-ins.

I carried a full load as a math major and found my classes to be very difficult. My academic performance was poor and I wondered if I belonged at the Naval Academy. Colonel Ripley, a Navy Cross recipient, one of the most decorated Marines during the Vietnam War and deeply admired and respected on the Yard, told me, "You belong here and you will be a fine Marine officer, but you need to determine your priorities and make some tough decisions to graduate." I decided to quit boxing

and change my major to economics. I never struggled academically again. Whenever I face difficulties in my career, I never question whether or not I belong, but instead ask myself, "what are my priorities and what, if any, tough decisions do I have to make in order to succeed?"

Shipmate: How did your time at the Academy prepare you to serve as a Marine Corps officer in combat and in the private sector?

Smith: The Academy truly prepared me mentally, physically and morally to serve as a Marine officer. My academic preparation ensured that I could be successful in the schoolhouse and the field. The Academy prepared me physically, particularly through boxing, to face any physical challenge I encountered in the Corps. I never scored lower than a 300 PFT the entire time I was in the Marines.

The Academy's moral preparation manifested in a couple of ways. First, I had a clear understanding of the Corps' moral and ethical standards and always strived to meet or exceed them, as I had done at the Academy. I also developed a deep appreciation of perseverance during my time at the Academy through challenges in the boxing ring, and the classroom. Those lessons carried me through every aspect of Marine Corps training, deployments and service during Desert Storm.

Additionally, I have found that the grit, integrity and problem-solving skills developed at the Academy and honed through my service in the Marines, prepared me for a myriad of challenges in my business career, which included stints in management consulting to entrepreneurship and private equity investing.

Shipmate: How have you benefited from mentoring and how are you sharing your experiences to assist others?

Smith: I have received a great deal of wisdom from Academy alumni on both career and life goals. Shipmates have helped me apply to business school, create a business network, interview for jobs and buy and run companies. More recently, I have asked retired alumni to help me determine how I might like to spend my time during retirement and the best ways to position myself to be selected for corporate and/or nonprofit boards.

They have given me clear and invaluable guidance for determining what type of service I might enjoy the most. I have simply passed along wisdom gained from shipmates and my life lessons to other alumni. Some alumni seek information and contacts related to acquiring a company. Other shipmates want to make a career move. I have been able to share an example from my experience or one of my mentors to help them move forward. ☐





TWO MIDSHIPMEN DROVE AWARENESS OF VIETNAM POWS

By Captain Tal Manvel '72, USN (Ret.)

It's been 51 years since the return of the American prisoner of wars (POW) from captivity during the Vietnam War. While their timely return after the end of the war is attributed to the tenacious political campaign waged by the wives of the prisoners led by Sybil Stockdale, two midshipmen at the U.S. Naval Academy led another letter-writing campaign to support the families and children of the POWs.

The midshipmen's story is included in H. Michael Gelfand's 2006 book, *Sea Change at Annapolis*, but their efforts were largely unreported at the time.

ACTIVISM AT ANNAPOLIS

In fall 1970, in the rotunda of Bancroft Hall, the U.S. Naval Academy hung photographs of graduates who were killed in action (KIA) or were missing in action (MIA) in Vietnam. Each week additional names were added, and by fall 1972, the display included more than 130 service members.

After the son of a Vietnam POW dined with the Brigade, two midshipmen, Rick Rubel and Joe Glover of the Class of 1972, decided to pass a hat around the mess hall to raise money to buy the children of MIAs and POWs Academy sweatshirts for Christmas. The Brigade responded, contributing more than \$5,000, and midshipmen who lived near these families delivered the gifts over the winter break.

Rubel also promoted a campaign at the Naval Academy that sold thousands of bracelets inscribed with the names of POWs by the nonprofit organization Voices in Vital America.

Still hoping to do more, Glover contacted Naval Academy alumnus and fellow Texan H. Ross Perot. While they weren't in the same graduating class, the paths of Perot '53 and William Lawrence '51, now a POW in Vietnam, crossed for two years in Annapolis. Together, Perot and the two midshipmen proposed a letter-writing campaign to try to convince North Vietnam to improve conditions for POWs. Rubel became the Brigade chairman for the campaign, and Glover wrote a pamphlet encouraging midshipmen, West Point cadets and the American public to write letters to Ho Chi Minh.

Perot provided the Academy a replica of a bamboo cage like the one in which American POW Nick Rowe had been imprisoned. Army Colonel Rowe—one of only 34 American POWs to escape during the Vietnam War—was held in a bamboo cage for most of his 64 months of captivity. He would go on to create the U.S. Army's SERE (Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape) program for high-risk military personnel.

The replica was set up in Bancroft Hall and was in the background when Rubel, Glover and Brigade Commander Mike Hecomovich '71 held a press conference to publicize the letter-writing campaign.

The letters received at the Academy were placed in the bamboo cage, but they quickly overflowed and were stacked on the floor. By the end of November, there were more than 15,000 letters.

ARMY-NAVY GAME

The 1970 Army-Navy football game would be played on 28 November in Philadelphia, PA. Rubel, Glover and Perot contacted Secretary of the Navy John Warner, who authorized a half-time ceremony to present the letters to the wives of POWs. However, as *The New York Times* reported in "Camp Raiders Honored at the Half of Army-Navy Game," the ceremony was upstaged by a presentation by Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird honoring the Army soldiers who had participated in the daring raid on the Son Tay POW camp that had been revealed the week before. The camp held no POWs.

But not to be forgotten, during the half-time show, which was televised on ABC, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Admiral Thomas Moorer '33, USN (Ret.), introduced Hecomovich to explain the scene as a postal delivery truck drove up to a platform where Rubel and Glover were standing. The two midshipmen then presented the letters they had gathered to Joan Vinson, wife of Lieutenant Colonel Bobby Gene Vinson, then listed as MIA, and the national coordinator of the National League of Families of American Prisoners of War and Missing in Southeast Asia. Needless to say, the wives were grateful, and the letters were later airlifted to North Vietnam.

In his book, Gelfand recalls Rubel telling him, "We wanted to help to personalize the POW situation, and at the Army-Navy game, we made the point. The whole process caught fire because midshipmen felt this was something they could do, not to affect



A press conference was held at the Naval Academy in the fall of 1970 with then-Brigade Commander Mike Hecomovich '71, then-MIDN Rick Rubel '72 and then-MIDN Joe Glover '72, to raise awareness of the plight of the families of MIAs/POWs during the Vietnam War.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAPT TAL MANVEL '72, USN (RET.)

the war, but to be part of the recognition [of POWs] ... That is why midshipmen latched on [to our project].”

NO GREATER LOVE

At the close of 1971, Rubel and Glover were just a few months from graduation, but they wanted to find a way to continue a campaign for the children. In December, they invited quarterback Johnny Unitas and five other members of the Baltimore Colts; Vince Promuto of the Washington Redskins; and former White House aide Carmella LaSpada, who had organized America’s Athletes for POWs-MIAs, to the Naval Academy.

Rubel and Glover teamed with the sports stars to recruit some 500 midshipmen to be pen pals with children of servicemen missing or captured in Vietnam. LaSpada, who suggested the name “No Greater Love,” became the program coordinator and went on to recruit other legendary entertainers and athletes to the group, including Joe DiMaggio, Althea Gibson, Joe Louis, Jesse Owens, Arnold Palmer, Ted Williams, Joe Frazier, Brooks Robinson, Don Schollander, Bobby Orr and Jerry West.

Less than two years after Rubel and Glover graduated, the POWs were freed.

Captain Rick Rubel ’72, USN (Ret.), and Joe Glover ’72 never received any official recognition for their work. It is time for these two former midshipmen to be honored for their empathy, their creativity and their efforts to bring attention and comfort to the families of Vietnam POWs and MIAs. You could say they were on their way to becoming distinguished graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy even before they graduated—and that puts them in a class by themselves. ⚓

This article originally appeared in the U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings. Copyright U.S. Naval Institute. Reprinted with permission. For more content like it, please visit usni.org.



Then-MIDN Rick Rubel '72, Baltimore Colts Quarterback Johnny Unitas, Washington Redskin lineman Vince Promuto and White House aide Carmella LaSpada gathered at the Naval Academy in December 1971 to kickoff a letter-writing campaign called "No Greater Love." The campaign was designed to provide support to the 2,050 children of American prisoners of war and those missing in action during the Vietnam War.

INSPECTION READY
(without lifting a finger)

A Non-Profit Life Plan Community | Independent Senior Living | Potomac Falls, VA

Eligibility for Independent Living at Falcons Landing is open to any officer that has served, senior level federal employees GS14 and above, spouses or surviving spouses. If you are looking for short-term rehab, long-term care, assisted living or memory care, no military or government background is required.

Do Not Disturb



Remember the coin tests? Hospital corners? White glove inspections? Well, at Falcons Landing you can leave the field day to us. We'll make sure housekeeping and maintenance are kept squared away, so you have more time to devote to your favorite pursuits—and can rest easy knowing your home will always be ready to pass inspection with flying colors.

CALL 703-721-4215 TO SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!



MORAN '81 AIMS TO SUSTAIN A&SP IMPACT



Admiral Bill Moran '81, USN (Ret.), was raised in the shadows of West Point where he attended basketball camps as a high schooler and was recruited to play for Army.

Fortunately, then-Navy assistant basketball coach Howie Cronauer convinced him to visit the Naval Academy. Moran, who had rarely been south of the Jersey Shore, was enamored by Annapolis. He chose Navy over

Army. He also was recruited by the Naval Academy golf team, ultimately serving as its captain.

Following commissioning, Moran began his career as a naval aviator and served for more than 38 years. The front-end of his career was spent in the cockpit on anti-submarine warfare (ASW) patrols above the Atlantic and Mediterranean as well as in numerous instructor pilot assignments.

After a tour in personnel management, he operated in the Pacific and Middle East theaters conducting ASW and supporting ground forces during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. As a flag officer, he served as director of air warfare and chief of naval personnel prior to becoming the 39th vice chief of naval operations in 2016.

Moran served as an Athletic and Scholarship Programs (A&SP) trustee before taking over as chairman in April 2023. He succeeded Rear Admiral Thomas C. Lynch '64, USN (Ret.), who retired after a 20-year tenure.

Since 1944, A&SP has sponsored more than 4,000 candidates who need further academic preparation before they enter the Naval Academy. Moran is excited for the opportunity to make a difference for the institution that gave him so much.

He spoke with *Shipmate* about his vision for A&SP.

Shipmate: Why was leading A&SP attractive to you?

Moran: It all started with the trustees where I found 250 loyal, dedicated graduates who wanted to give back to athletics and leadership development. Their purpose and mission spoke to me. Together we truly feel like we contribute not only to the physical mission but the overarching mission, which is to develop leaders

of consequence. There's no question in my mind when you witness the character, the resilience and the determination on the athletics fields and courts, imagine how these men and women are going to lead when they get to the fleet.

Today, carrier and expeditionary strike groups are standing watch around the globe making sure our adversaries know that they are facing a seasoned varsity team. Among those commanding ships and air wings are Naval Academy grads and many of them were athletes when they were here. The value of our physical mission continues to be evident everywhere you find Naval Academy grads leading teams.

Shipmate: How important are athletics in the development of midshipmen?

Moran: Sports are really important, not only as a release from the academic load but also in terms of leadership opportunities. You're going to get a chance to compete at a Division I level or at the intramural level. Somebody's going to be a captain or co-captain. Somebody's going to lead in one respect or another.

People are drawn to those who have a natural affinity and ability to lead. In this service academy, there are 1,000 such people in your own class, so you really must learn humility in order to build winning teams. There's no better place to learn how and when to blend in and when to step up with people who are at the same level as you, if not higher. The physical mission does so much for leader development as well as just mental health while you're here.

Shipmate: What have you learned about A&SP since you took the reins in April 2023?

Moran: The beauty of what I've discovered in this role is just the amount of passion that exists within 250 trustees and 100 or so emeritus members. They all care deeply about this institution. They're passionate about sports and we all see the value of the physical mission.

Underneath that is recognition that the Naval Academy is not funded to fully support our athletic programs, in fact it's not even close. I think the number is somewhere around 4 percent of the budget comes from the federal government. The other 96 percent of what it takes to run the sports activities here at the Naval Academy comes from TV rights, sponsorships and from the giving nature of alumni. Our trustees really share the burden

of bringing that level up to where we have an institution and a program that is second to none.

Our athletic director talks about 36 varsity Division I sports programs, more than any other school in the nation. What that means is more opportunities for more young men and women to compete at the highest levels. And finally I've learned just how important our Foundation schools are to bringing candidates in who are the best and brightest, and helps ensure that they succeed while they're here.

Shipmate: What are some of your short-term and long-term goals for A&SP?

Moran: Short-term goals are three-fold; one is to simply carry on what Tom Lynch put in place here. He left me with a legacy of service and an organization's culture that seeks to constantly improve the quality of our Naval Academy. Second is to ensure that we continue to provide high quality education and experience

at our Foundation schools so that these young women and men graduate near the top year in and year out. And thirdly, to support committee chairs as best I can to make sure we're delivering to the Supe and the athletic director what they need to keep the Margin of Excellence at Navy. When young men and women come to the Academy as high school sophomores and juniors, we want them to see great facilities, feel the camaraderie of the athletes and sense the quality of teammates and coaches.

That's what makes a lot of them say 'I'm going to go there.' We're going after high-quality athletes and scholars—men and women with a propensity to serve their country.

Long term is really to continue to grow contributions we make toward the athletic department, to continue to grow our trustee contributions and ensure we keep that Margin of Excellence—quality coaches, outstanding athletic facilities, schedules that meet their expectations and teammates who inspire each other. ⚓



Our tradition of service.

Since 1879, Navy Mutual has been trusted by Navy families during their times of great need. Our life insurance products feature no active duty service restrictions or aviation clauses, so you can rest assured, no matter where your service takes you, we have you covered.

Active Duty / Reserve / Retirees / Veterans / Military Spouses and Children

To learn more, call **800-628-6011** or visit **NavyMutual.org/Navy** for an online quote in less than a minute.

Photo courtesy of the United States Department of Defense. The DOD does not endorse any company or their products or services.



CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

JACKSONVILLE HOSTS NEXT LEVEL WATCH PARTY

Caleb Cronic '11 figured if folks were going to gather to watch the Army-Navy football game, they might as well catch it on the world's largest video boards.

On 9 December 2023, the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association's Jacksonville, FL, chapter hosted its fourth joint Army-Navy Watch Party at EverBank Stadium, home of the NFL's Jaguars. The event is open to the public and has drawn between 300 and 1,000-plus fans. Organizers partner with the city of Jacksonville to raise approximately \$30,000 each year for local veteran charities.

Cronic, former Jacksonville chapter president, said the partnership with the city was key to successfully navigating the logistical and approval process. The Jacksonville chapter's success could be a model for other

chapters, particularly those in areas with professional sports teams who play in taxpayer-funded facilities.

EverBank Stadium—with its 60-foot by 362-foot video boards—seemed like a natural fit for an event that attracts more than just alumni from the two service academies.

"I thought it would be great for a watch party," Cronic said. "It's a community-wide event."

Working with city officials, specifically Jacksonville's director of military affairs and veterans department, watch-party organizers—including the West Point Society of North Florida—were able to get the venue at cost (about \$10,000) instead of what might have been north of \$50,000. The city markets the event and handles most logistics. While they can't charge an entrance fee, organizers have been able to



PHOTO COURTESY OF CALEB CRONIC '11

The Jacksonville, FL, chapter of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation has raised more than \$100,000 for veterans charities by co-hosting an Army-Navy Watch Party at EverBank Stadium. By partnering with the city of Jacksonville and the West Point Society of North Florida, the chapter has made the watch party an annual event that is open to the public and raises awareness for the Naval Academy and nonprofits such as K9s for Warriors.

make sizable contributions to the Jacksonville Veterans Fund and K9s for Warriors through sponsorships and donations.

Jacksonville chapter President Captain Scott T. Neidhold '77, USNR (Ret.), said the watch party rallies the community around a great game and supports great causes.

"We are fortunate to live in a community that places a high value on honoring active-duty service members, veterans and military families," Neidhold said. "Our annual Army-Navy Game Watch Party has become the signature event for the Jacksonville chapter of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation. Supported by the city of Jacksonville, the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation and the West Point Society, this event provides alumni, fans and friends an opportunity to watch an American classic while raising awareness and funds for such charities as K9s for Warriors and the Wounded Warrior Project."

After several successful events, Cronic said the game has become a self-perpetuating occurrence. The Jacksonville-based Wounded Warrior Project was a sponsor last year and brought about 250 wounded veterans to the game.

In addition to raising awareness for veterans charities, the event attracts members of the local community and provides an avenue to engage local retirees, recruiting offices, bases, NJROTC and alumni. Naval Academy and West Point alumni compete to see who can bring in the most sponsorship money.

In 2023, a local sports radio station promoted the event, through an in-kind sponsorship, and hosted a joint interview with alumni representatives from the Naval Academy and West Point. MyGym, a children's fitness center, also provided an in-kind sponsorship for a kids zone to bring in families and emailed their client list about the event.

Sponsors received banners to be displayed around the stadium and a brief opening ceremony included the national anthem sung by a local NJROTC, a flyover by a local HSM group, words from the city and brief videos from the superintendents from each institution.

The city also receives a cut from concession sales, which goes toward fundraising for the event.

Cronic said he's spoken with leaders of other alumni association chapters about hosting similar events in their areas. Strong relationships with local municipal leaders is critical, particularly, when it comes to the cost and logistical hurdles for approval of permits and facility use.

"Connect with the city," Cronic said. "It's a no-go until that is done. Make them see it as a fundraising opportunity for them." 📍

Editor's Note: Shipmate is eager to share the stories of alumni association chapters assisting their communities with impactful programs and events. Please contact Editor Jimmy DeButts at jimmy.debutts@usna.com to share examples of your chapter's outreach and engagement efforts.

Where Naval Heritage Meets Exceptional Taste

*Customer Engraved Whiskey Bottles for USNA Alumni
Perfect for Class Reunion Swag Bags!*

Custom engraved bottles filled with our award-winning 1420 Flagship Maritime Whiskeys are an elegant and memorable keepsake.

Choose from a variety of options including Academy or individual class crests, insignias or the classic Go Navy, Beat Army logos.

Our exquisite whiskeys are sure to please, both for whiskey novices or those who possess the most sophisticated palate.

Contact Ted Dumbauld, Founder, USNA '81
Email: ted.dumbauld@sono1420.com
Online: SONO1420.SQUARE.SITE/USNA-AA-F-PARTNER

SONO1420
AMERICA'S MARITIME DISTILLERY

DOUBLE GOLD
MEDAL AWARD
WINNING DISTILLERY

Distilled and Aged in the Maritime Environment on the Long Island Sound



BRAVO ZULU

1990s

'99: **Col Nicole Aunapu Mann, USMC**, is one of six former NCAA student-athletes who were honored with the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award as part of the 2024 NCAA Convention in January in Phoenix, AZ.

2000s

'01: **David J. Cote** has joined the Discovery Museum's board of directors. Cote is a program manager at Draper Laboratory, a John F. Kennedy School of Government graduate and retired U.S. Marine Corps officer.

2010s

'15: **LT Joe Cardona, USN**, a long snapper for the New England Patriots, received the 2023 Salute to Service Award in February. The award recognizes the exceptional efforts by members of the NFL family to honor and support the military community.

Flag Officer Promotions

The following alumni promotions were approved on 5 December 2023:

'86: **RADM James E. Pitts, USN**, to vice admiral and deputy chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Requirements and Capabilities N9 Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

'87: **MajGen Gregory L. Masiello, USMC**, to lieutenant general and director of the Defense Contract Management Agency.

'89: **VADM Charles B. Cooper II, USN**, reappointment to vice admiral and to be deputy commander U.S. Central Command; **RADM Yvette M. Davids, USN**, to vice admiral and to be Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy; **RADM Douglas G. Perry, USN**, to vice admiral and commander Second Fleet and commander Joint Forces Command Norfolk.

'90: **CAPT John E. Byington, USNR**, to rear admiral (lower half); **RADM Frederick W. Kacher, USN**, to vice



Ward '24 Named Rhodes Scholar Scholarship Recipient

Midshipman Abigail Ward '24 was one of 32 Americans awarded a Rhodes Scholarship in November 2023. Ward, the Naval Academy's 56th Rhodes Scholar, is a computer science major and a Chinese minor.

She is passionate about protecting communities from foreign influence campaigns through sound cyber policy, with a focus on analyzing Beijing-backed disinformation campaigns using Natural Language Processing. She is a recipient of the Stamps Scholarship that allowed her to work with The Asia Foundation Malaysia in the summer 2023 to study the impact of technology policy on small and micro entrepreneurs. She also spent spring 2023 in an intensive Mandarin program at National Taiwan University in Taipei, Taiwan.

She currently serves as the Chinese Culture Club president, is a member of the Navy women's rugby team and is a Midshipman Group Studies program leader.

The Rhodes Scholarship qualifies young people from around the world for postgraduate study at the University of Oxford in England for up to three years. The scholarships are for young leaders of outstanding intellect and character who are motivated to engage with global challenges and are committed to the service of others. [□](#)



d'Halluin '24 Named Marshall Scholar

Midshipman Charlotte d'Halluin '24 has been awarded a Marshall Scholarship, which provides up to two years of postgraduate studies at a United Kingdom university.

d'Halluin is a mechanical engineering major, captain of the women's rugby team, the operations officer for the Naval Academy Science and Engineering Conference and the commanding officer for the Formula SAE Capstone, which works to build the U.S. Navy racing team's first electric vehicle from scratch.

In 2021, d'Halluin participated in a language program in Haifa, Israel. Upon graduation in May, she will commission as a submariner, duties she will assume after she completes her studies in the United Kingdom. She intends to pursue a master's degree from the University of Edinburgh in energy, society and sustainability, and a Master by Research at the University College London in urban sustainability and resilience. She is interested in climate change broadly, and her proposed research is to investigate ways to reduce carbon emissions on DoD facilities across the globe.

Marshall Scholarships were founded to commemorate the humane ideals of the European Recovery Program (Marshall Plan). Goals of the program include enabling future leaders of America the opportunity to study in the United Kingdom, to contribute to the advancement of knowledge at Britain's centers of academic excellence and to motivate scholars to act as ambassadors throughout their lives and to strengthen British-American understanding. [□](#)

admiral and to be commander Seventh Fleet; **RADM Brendan R. McLane, USN**, to vice admiral and to be commander Naval Surface Forces/ commander Naval Surface Force.

'91: **MajGen James H. Adams III, USMC**, to lieutenant general and deputy commandant for Programs and Resources Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps; **RADM (lower half) Heidi K. Berg, USN**, to rear admiral; **RADM (lower half) Richard T. Brophy Jr., USN**, to rear admiral; **RADM (lower half) Brian L. Davies, USN**, to rear admiral; **RADM Robert M. Gaucher, USN**, to vice admiral to be commander Naval Submarine Forces/commander Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet Allied Submarine Command; **RADM (lower half) Marc S. Lederer, USN**, to rear admiral;

RADM (lower half) Casey J. Moton, USN, to rear admiral.

'92: **RADM (lower half) Richard E. Seif Jr., USN**, to rear admiral; **RADM (lower half) Derek A. Trinquet, USN**, to rear admiral; **RADM (lower half) Dennis Velez, USN**, to rear admiral.

'93: **CAPT Frederic C. Goldhammer, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Jeffrey A. Jurgemeyer, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Todd S. Weeks, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **RADM (lower half) Jeremy B. Williams, USN**, to rear admiral.

'94: **CAPT Amy N. Bauernschmidt, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Ian L. Johnson, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Joshua Lasky, USN**, to rear admiral

(lower half); **CAPT Donald W. Marks, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Michael S. Mattis, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Julie M. Treanor, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half).

'95: **CAPT Thomas J. Dickinson, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Neil A. Koprowski, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Craig T. Mattingly, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Kurtis A. Mole, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Lincoln M. Reifsteck, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Frank A. Rhodes IV, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half); **CAPT Forrest O. Young, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half).

'98: **CAPT Marc F. Williams CEC, USN**, to rear admiral (lower half).

'64

Life Membership: 65%
Donor Participation: 26.68%

Pres: **CAPT Micheal Farmer, USN (Ret.)**
e: farmer.mike@comcast.net

Corr Sec'y: **Roland Marquis**
333 Valverde Ln., St. Augustine, FL 32086
p: 847-970-7562; e: bigroland1@comcast.net

Website: www.usna64.org

We open this issue remembering **Jerry Seibe**, the third of our ten classmates listed on the Viet Nam Memorial Wall. They are listed chronologically in the identical manner their names appear. The first section below covers the narrative accompanying Gerry's name on The Wall and the second is a transcription from his entry in



Gerald W. Siebe, LTJG USN
Panel 11E, Line 115

our 40th Reunion Yearbook submitted by a 17th Company classmate.

The Wall: "On October 26, 1966, there was a flare fire aboard the aircraft carrier USS ORISKANY operating in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam. Two sailors were re-stowing unexpended MK-24 Mod 3 flares when one was accidentally dropped. The igniter had not been reset to SAFE. As it fell, the safety lanyard was inadvertently pulled, actuating the flare. For reasons known only to him, one of the sailors picked up the armed flare, threw it into the magazine locker, and closed the door. Some 2.75-inch rocket warheads loaded with Composition B were stowed in the locker. Shortly after the flare ignited in the locker, the intense heat caused a 2.75 rocket warhead in the locker to detonate, sending fire and smoke into the hangar bay. This was followed by a second warhead explosion that spread fire throughout the entire hangar deck and in the forward portion of the ship. Finally, heat caused a liquid oxygen tank to explode. Before the fires were completely under control, 44 sailors had died (43 from asphyxiation and one from burns) and 156 had been injured. Beside the material damage to the ship, two helicopters and an A-4E aircraft were destroyed and three A-4E aircraft were damaged. The estimated cost of the material damage was \$11 million. LTJG Siebe died as a result of the fires."

The 40th Reunion Yearbook: Jerry came to USNA from Mascoutah, IL after completing a year at the Illinois Institute of Technology on a Navy Scholarship.

A member of the 17th Company, he was a gymnast who performed outstandingly on the side horse. He was also sports editor of *The Splinter*.



'64: A mounted piece of the 1963 Army-Navy game goal post

After graduation, Jerry entered flight training at Pensacola, FL and on 26 December 1964 he married Becky Hulliung.

Upon earning his wings of gold, he was assigned to Helicopter Squadron One in San Diego. He left for the Tonkin Gulf in May 1966 and was flying from the USS ORISKANY. Jerry, along with 43 other souls, lost his life in the ORISKANY Fire on October 26, 1966.

Regarding future memorialization's, you asked, we provide! The following table comprises the anticipated dates and comment submittal deadlines for memorializing the remaining classmates on "The Wall."

Classmate	Shipmate Issue	Input Deadline
Jerry Hogan	May '24	20 Feb 2024
Robin Cassell	June '24	25 March 2024
Barry Hooper	July-Aug '24	25 May 2024
Geoffrey Shumway	Oct '24	25 July 2024
William Griffis	Nov-Dec '24	20 Sept 2024
Charles Parish	Jan-Feb '25	20 Nov 2024
Michel Collins	Mar-April '25	20 Jan 2025

Anyone desiring to submit remembrances, sea stories, etc., must submit them prior to the deadline date to be included.

John Reiersen, sent in a couple of very unique photos.



John proudly holding his goal post "splinter" plaque

John explains: "As a plebe, I ran onto the field after that game and retrieved it. As you may recall, the goal posts back then were wooden."

"I had been saving it these past 60 years, packed in a box which took it to the many places I called home since then. Recently, I decided to have it mounted. Notably, it was Joe Bellino's last Army-Navy game, and soon thereafter he won the Heisman Trophy."

Received a nice note from **Ray Michelini** noting the Tidewater Virginia's Class Chapter (TW-64) celebrated its 15th Anniversary with a special joint luncheon with wives and guests on 3 November at Bubba's Seafood Restaurant in Virginia Beach, their standard meeting place. Founded by **Bill Carson** [deceased] and **George Christian** during the summer of 2008, the Chapter was officially established by the Class Board of Directors on 11 November 2008. Since then, with the exception of the COVID period, the Chapter's been meeting bi-monthly from September to May each year. They also have an annual joint luncheon with wives and guests.

Present at this special luncheon occasion [starting at left table and CW] were Ray and Sue, Ronnie and **Marcus Friedman**, Eleanor and **Pete Taylor**, Linda and **Phil Boyer**, **Tom McFeely**, Ann and **George Christian**. On the other table, Joan and **Butch Christie**, Suzanne and **Joe Prueher**, **Stu Johnson**, **Dick Robbins**, **Mike Kenslow**, **Andy Murphy**, as well as Bobbi and **Al Krekich**. Fair winds and a quartering sea, classmates.



'64: The Tidewater Gang and guests at their 15th

'65

Life Membership: 65%
Donor Participation: 53.93%

Pres: **CAPT Jim Minderlein, USN (Ret.)**
 p: 410-841-6644; e: jim65@verizon.net
 Corr Sec'y: **CDR Dave Anderson, USN (Ret.)**
 1600 Ala Moana Blvd. #2208, Honolulu, HI 96815
 c: 816-621-0878
 e: daveand65@me.com; daveand65@earthlink.net
 Class of 1965 Home Page:
<http://www.daveand65.com/USNA65/>
<https://daveand65.wixsite.com/usna65photos>

Alas, we lost five great classmates - **Bob Sermier, Eric Morrisette, Gil Crouse, Doug Powell** and **Ed Merino** - since the last column submission. Faced with the word count limitations for this submission, the following reports of their passings - all by **Jim Minderlein** in December and January - will be horribly short. Please, please check out Last Call for details on the lives and careers of these stalwart c'mates.

First One - **Doug Powell** passed away on 13 September. I was notified in early January by **Mike Epprecht** who received a Christmas card from Doug's wife, Pat, that he had a massive stroke on 03 July and died two months later. Mike says that Pat sounds strong and is currently visiting her daughter. Her e-mail is powell17@gmail.com and cell is 303-916-9434. Doug graduated from the 12th Company and is the 6th deceased of 26 graduates from that Company. He is buried in the Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver, Colorado.

Second one - **Eric Morrisette** passed on 06 December. Eric followed his career-Navy father into the Naval Academy where his time was spent in hard study and elaborate pranks. After graduating, he met his beloved wife and adventure partner, Janice. They were married for 56 years and is survived by Janice, two daughters and two grandchildren. He pursued his hobbies with a relentless desire to learn and improve, whether it was sailing, long-distance cycling, sudoku, gardening, bridge, lobstering, or bird watching. His love of nature was infectious. Eric worked at Factory Mutual Insurance for 30 years and eventually ran his own ATM company.

Third one - **Bob Sermier** passed on 10 December, with **Forrest Horton** getting the news of his roomie's death from Bob's widow, Martha. He'd had years facing a variety of health problems, but Bob had persevered. Following his service in the Submarine Nuclear Power Program, Bob tackled Harvard Business School before joining the US Department of Health, Education & Welfare and subsequently the New York Department of Health & Human Services. He went on to become a professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in NY where his results counseling graduate students are legendary.

Fourth one - **Gil Crouse** passed on 12 December. Jim was unable to legally publish

his obituary without the funeral home's permission. The Alumni Association is working on obtaining that and it will likely be part of Last Call. Gil graduated from the 23rd Company and is the 6th deceased of 20 graduates.

Fifth one - **Edward Bradley Merino** passed on 23 December. He was surrounded by his immediate family, after battling idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis for over five years. Ed roomed with **Thel Hooks** in the 5th Company during Youngster year and left us sometime after that before graduation. I spoke with **Skip Orr** and he said that Ed continued to be a faithful attendee at all of the '63 Football Team reunions since then.

On to some happier news.

From **Phil Ferrara**, 22 Oct:

☒ On Thursday, October 19 many '65ers attended a reception for several hundred alumni at the new Alumni Center. It's an absolutely beautiful new facility, and we look forward to a future '65 event in there. In the photo are **Sted and Robin Garber, Linda and Phil Ferrara** and **Don Brown**.



On 01 Nov, twenty-one assembled for the Class of '65 First Wednesday lunch at McGarvey's Saloon. In attendance were **Ed Linz, Jim Minderlein, Skip Orr**, Ryan Moore (son of **Skip Moore**), **Phil Ferrara, Bob Sullivan, Frank Peterson, Sonny Harrison, Bob Andretta, Carter Refo, Mike Luecke, Moke DeMatta, Larry Eggert, Bob Green, Fred Vogel, Jim Stark, Charlie Morrison, John Collins, Skip Shealy, Conrad Best** and **Sted Garber**.

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to welcome and chat with Ryan during the lunch and for Ryan to join his dad's classmates and friends. During lunch **Jim Minderlein** and **Skip Orr** presented **Ed Linz** with the Class of 1965 plaque in recognition of Ed's great service to the Class in chronicling the Vietnam War history of the Class of 1965.

REGISTER OF ALUMNI 2024

PCI, our trusted partner will be contacting alumni through a mailed post card and email. They will verify that your rank, address, phone number and email are up-to-date

Check out the link for information.
Shop - Register of Alumni - www.usna.com



From **Phil Ferrara**, 14 Nov

☒ Here's a photo from last weekend's activities. A tailgate, then the football game against The University of Alabama at Birmingham with a parachute jump and march-on and flyover, and the halftime with about 500 cheerleaders performing.



From **Denny Neutze**, 23 Nov

☒ Two years ago today, on Thanksgiving, our daughter, Dana, gave birth to our new grand baby with the lovely name "Navy". Here are Dana and Navy celebrating Navy's birthday. Shopping in the Midshipman Store has never been so much fun!



From **Pete Lumianski**, 26 Nov

☒ Great pic of the Lumi clan at Thanksgiving.

65/66 CLASS NEWS



From **Rick Rickard**, 09 Dec

✉ Here's the Bay Area '65ers gathered to watch the Army-Navy Game. Left to right: Ron Wecht, Ed McCann, Rick Rickard, Chip Allen, Bob Stanfield. Rick, my ol' Plebe Year Roomie, is still involved to some degree in his volunteer work with the East Bay Regional Park District and with bicycle advocacy, Rick's formal roles have wound down over the last several years, leaving him more free time for his favorite activity — bike riding, including doing some on a 2023 visit to Kauai.



From **Ted Nanz**, 26 Dec

✉ Photo attached from Christmas dinner with wife, Meliza, daughters in the back from Virginia Commonwealth University, James Madison University, and a local high school.



From **Bob Zitzewitz** and **Jim Roorbach**, 04 Jan

✉ Although the game did not turn out as we wished, Jim Roorbach threw a great potluck party that included many classes (42 guests) '65 was represented by **Jim Roorbach, Judie Zitzewitz, Dave and Marion Schlesinger, Pat and Skip MacAlexander, Larry and Judy McMurray** and **Bill and Gayle Hancock**.

It was great to see everyone!



The Excel version of our Class Directory that our c'mate, Bull Durham, constructed and lovingly maintained for 20+ years, has been recently updated. I've taken over this task since 2017. If anyone wants a copy, just email me.

And I have a bunch of digital images of USNA and '65 graphic - crests, Bill the Goat, and others. Lemme know if you'd like any. They're great for ordering merchandise online. And thazzit for this month. Aloha, Dave

'66

Life Membership: 66%
Donor Participation: 30.45%

Pres: **VADM John "Scott" Redd, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **CDR Mike Baird, USN (Ret.)**
10439 Rivington Ct., Lone Tree, CO 80124
e: mike.baird@1966.usna.com

Website: www.usna66.org

Spring has finally sprung, though in Colorado that can be difficult to discern. I hope everyone is thawing from winter. I have several events to report so let's get to it.

Carl McCullough provided the following summary of the Navy UNC Charlotte football game and several pics of the events he cites.

✉ "We had a nice turnout for Navy's first-ever game against UNC Charlotte, a new addition to the American Athletic Conference. It began as a mini reunion of 19th and 28th Company mates and expanded to include others. Some of the guests arrived in the Charlotte area on Wednesday, 11 October, but our big gatherings began Friday, 13 October, at our house. An afternoon and evening gathering included Sarah and **Jerry Hodge**, Jo Ann and **Garry Zopf**, Karen and **Rich Muller, Frank Bryant**, and his friend Roseanne Sullivan, Beth and **Ted Smyth, Bill Gaffney**, Kay Earhart, **Tom Doyle**, and our 14th/21st Company friends, Mary Ann and **Carl Fulford**, and Jane and **Sam Marrone**.

Saturday morning, we got together with Karen and **Bobby Charles** and about 500 other Navy faithful at the tailgate party, and there was also a spotting of Jane and **Neil Brennan**. Our football team showed up at halftime and made the day even more worthwhile, defeating UNCC 14-0.

Sunday afternoon, most of us met at a beautiful rental home on Lake Wylie for an 80th birthday bash orchestrated by JoAnn Zopf. The catered dinner, beginning with scrumptious appetizers, included Beef Wellington and Creme Brule and exceptional wine. Included there, in addition to Zopfs and McCulloughs, were Mullers, Hodges, Kay Earhart, **Bill Gaffney, Tom Doyle, Frank Bryant**, and Roseanne Sullivan. **Bob Golden** joined us by phone as planning began for Navy's return visit in two years. We hope to see more of you, next time."

Thanks Carl. Great writeup.



CLASSMATES AT UNCC FOOTBALL GATHERING



GATHERING AT THE MUCULLOUGH'S



80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Desi and **John Posoli** hosted an Army-Navy party in Annapolis. Shown nearby are the Classmates attending and spouses.



'66: 2023 ARMY-NAVY PARTY CLASSMATES



'66: 2023 ARMY-NAVY PARTY CLASSMATES AND LADIES

Charlie Jones provide the following writeup and photo of the final 2023 season football tailgaters.

Attendees at the '66 '16 football tailgate for the Navy-ECU football game on 18 November (alphabetical by last name): **Roland Blocksom** with daughter Jen Blocksom, **Neil Brennan**, Kacky and **Rodger Carter**, Susan Reardon and **Jack Drake**, Betty and **Tom Eubanks**, Dervilla and **Scott Gordo**, Jackie and **Tom Grim**, Nancy Brown and **Pete Hesser**, **Don Jackson**, Ginny and **Charlie Jone**, Nancy and **Jim Long**, and guest Sylvia Deangelo, Kathy Madaleno, Jane and **Sam Marrone**, Kathy and **Robert Percival**, Desi and **John Posoli**, **Rusty Rawson**, **Lindsey Adams Riddick '16** with **Justin Riddick '13** and baby Layla Liddick, Lynne and **Ace Sarich**, Dominique and **Andre Simonpietri**, **Hank Strickland**, Karen and **Chuc**, **Charlie Votava**, and **Pete Wright**.

Charlie Votava provided the following summary and photos to document the events of the Leadership Awards aboard GONZALEZ

(DDG-66).

Thursday, 26 October, Classmate **RADM John Sigler**, USN (Ret.) presented our USNA Class of 1966 Leadership Awards to ET1 (SW) Dylan Wilkins and LT Riley Brosnan on board GONZALEZ (DDG-66) at Naval Station, Norfolk, VA. Classmates present at the ceremony were **Tony Franzitta**, **Chuck Grutzius**, **Rob Ploeger**, **Hank Strickland**, and **Charlie Votava**.

A summary of the award citations recognized: ET1 Wilkins, the Leading Petty Officer in the Combat Electronics Division, employed his broad multifaceted management experience and superior technical skills to direct the Combat System and Anti-Terrorism teams in successful completion of the numerous system readiness certifications and team performance evaluations, as well as overseeing 20,000 equipment maintenance actions during the past year.

Lieutenant Brosnan, the Damage Control

Assistant and Repair Division Officer, led his division and ship's crew through successful completion of: Damage Control Industrial Certification; the Damage Control Material Assessment; the Light Off Assessment; Seven, no-notice Atlantic Surface Forces Fire Safety Assessments, and two, no-discrepancy NAVSEA Chapter 12 Industrial Firefighting drills.

Following the awards presentation, **RADM Sigler** thanked CDR Erik Reynolds and the crew for their gracious hospitality and the opportunity to recognize superior performers. In addition, he thanked the CO and crew for the opportunity for our Class to maintain the relationship with them and the hull number which is a memorial to the many Classmates who died in the Vietnam War. **RADM Sigler** closed his remarks with some points on leadership: one - Make note of the best demonstrations of leadership in your leaders; second, Seek opportunities and be ready to accept leadership positions; and third, Employ those best leadership practices and don't take yourself seriously while in those leadership positions.

Following the ceremony, '66 Classmates enjoyed lunch in the GONZALEZ wardroom with LT Brosnan and ET1 Wilkins.

Wednesday, 25 October, the evening before the GONZALEZ on-board ceremony, Classmates; Linda and **Tony Franzitta**, **Tom Martin**, **Peggy and Charlie Pfeiffer**, **Joyce and Rob Ploeger**, Margie and **Jim Powell**, **Hank Strickland**, and **Sharon and Charlie Votava**, gathered on the deck at Villa Votava welcoming Gail and **John Sigler** (back) to Virginia Beach. The pot-luck social was an immense success due to my spouse's attention to the menu. Thanks Charlie. Excellent job.

Sadly, I report the death of Classmates **Don Colley** (34th Co.) on 19 November 2023, **John Hoddy** (1st Co.) on 23 November 2023, **Doug May** (31st Co) on December 2023, and **Jim Coons** (15th Co) on 13 December 2023. Please keep their families in your prayers.

In closing, I remind you to make frequent visits to our Class web site, usna66.org. The articles in *Shipmate* are limited to 2,000 words. Pictures can count from 50 to 250 words against the word limit, depending on how much space they take up in a column. Our web site has more detail and pictures of items I present. In addition, it has information on Class events; past, present, and future. Finally, thanks to all who provided input for this issue. Until May,—All the best—Mike!!!



'66: ECU GAME TAILGATERS

USNA.COM

Stay Connected and Informed.



'66: CLASSMATES AT THE AWARD CEREMONY



'66: GATHERING AT VILLA VOTAVA

'67

Life Membership: 77%

Donor Participation: 42.26%

Pres: **CDR David E. Church, USN (Ret.)**

Sec'y: **LtCol Jim McNece, USMC (Ret.)**
1603 John Worthington Way, Crownsville, MD 21032
p: 410-849-3423; e: scribe67@gmail.com

I'm writing in the third week of January. My last column was submitted two months back, so there's some catching up to be done. Let's get to it.

We start with a death that hits hard. **Chris Gates** passed away peacefully on 26 December 2023, but at this time I have little information. He is survived by Sherry, his wife, and three children: Rusty, Kim, and **Jeremy Gates '00**. Jeremy said "bless him, he made it through Christmas, avoided our anniversary tomorrow and his grandson's birthday the next day. Only a good Naval Aviator could pick up the 3 wire that well." In the words of **Dave Church**, "the most contagious laugh ever heard is silenced." We'll send out information as we get it.

Cliff Brahmstadt and Dick Collins passed the word that **Fred Geiger** passed away on 20 December 2023 in Reading, PA. Fred graduated with a degree in nuclear engineer-

ing, and after leaving the Navy, he joined Commonwealth Edison, working for them for almost 30 years as an operating engineer and database developer. After retirement from Commonwealth Edison he continued developing databases elsewhere and as a volunteer in management positions. Fred is survived by his daughter Elise, his son Ian, his wife Tracy of Madison, WI, and four grandchildren. His obituary can be found at <https://rb.gy/lvzr7>. Memorial gifts may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation at <https://rb.gy/k62ibo>.

Paul Schissler's wife Patty died on 11 December 2023. She was born in Rhode Island in 1944 and met Paul in 1967. They married in November of 1968. They have a daughter, Joanne, and two sons, Paul and Thomas, though Thomas died at the age of three. She supported Paul during his career in the Navy and afterward, spending two years with him in Greece supporting Olympic security. Her obituary may be found at <https://rb.gy/uoy5dd>. Memorial gifts may be made to Planned Parenthood at <https://shorturl.at/akvGU>. Patty will be interred at the USNA Columbarium at a later date.

Pleasant Larry (Murph) Murphy passed away on January 9, 2024 after a short battle with MDS. Murph was a Napster, oarsman, member of the 6th battalion and a fun loving mid. He left early in our Second Class year and

then completed his education and was ordained as an Episcopal priest. He headed several churches and joined the Naval Reserve as a chaplain, deploying to many crisis locations. He also served as a volunteer chaplain for the FBI's Hostage Rescue Team. Larry was a lifelong active member of the Class, attending reunions and serving as clergy at our memorial services. He leaves behind a son and daughter and his wife Susan. She resides at 167 County Rd 1949, Yantis TX 75497.

We got this from **Dick Branum**:

✉ Just found this out today and **Ned Laskowski** wanted you all to know that his oldest son Chris unexpectedly passed away at home in Washington DC on 7 January 2024. Ned and family are still waiting to learn the cause of his death. A beautiful celebration of life service was held 14 January 2024 at the historic New York Ave Presbyterian Church in Washington attended by hundreds of Chris's friends, co-workers and D.C. Council dignitaries. Fortunately, OB, Peggy, and I were able to attend and be there for Ned and Pam.

Chris's obituary can be found at <https://rb.gy/2bt56f>.

Craig LaGrone died on 11 November 2023 in Norman, OK after collapsing while walking to a football game. He was born in 1943 and after attending New Mexico Military Academy, joined us at USNA. He ran track and played football (alongside Dave Church on the Plebe team) at Navy. He left USNA for the University of Tulsa to become a math and science teacher and coach of football, track, and soccer. He and his first wife, Linda, had three children. He married again to Ellen in 1999, and they continued to live in Tulsa where they became fast friends with Diana and **Gary Tabbert**. Craig is survived by Ellen, son Craig, Jr, daughters Cammie and Canon, and six grandchildren. Memorial gifts may be made to First Methodist Church Tulsa for Gathering Hearts for Honduras (tulsafmc.org) or Folds of Honor which provides scholarships to families of fallen or disabled veterans (foldsofhonor.org).

Charles Hyatt King III, 80, of Richardson, Texas passed away November 29, 2023. He left USNA in April 1967 and after serving in the Navy for six years joined IBM to start his technical career. He married Marjorie in 1969 and moved several times, eventually starting his own company providing IT consulting and education to large corporate clients in the USA and Canada and virtually to Asia. He is survived by Marjorie and two daughters, Jodi and Heather. He is to be interred in the Veterans' Cemetery in Preston, MN in the spring of 2024.

Got this image from **Ted Verdery** taken at the Navy-SMU game. He said they didn't let the game spoil a Roomie Reunion! In the photo are: Sandy and Ted Verdery, Sally and **John Crouse**. Jennie and **Jon Holzapfel** and Lynda and **Reb Hester**.



Roommates and their friends

From **Paul McConnell**: a great picture of a picture!

✉ I took my family of 24 to the game and the grandkids were on CBSsports and twice on the stadium Jumbotron Other than the final score the atmospheric at Gillette were absolutely first class . We'll get them next year..... Beat Army!

Vince Putiri agrees with Paul's assessment of the game site:

✉ Great day for my family who thoroughly enjoyed their "Navy" experience at Gillette Stadium. They loved the flyover, the parachute teams the pageantry—all of it. The tailgate at Bar Louie was great so they got to see the true Navy spirit and enjoyed meeting both Navy and Army folks. We ended up at Bar Louie again after the game so we did not spend hours in traffic, but instead enjoyed the great Army Game environment.

The Boston area was a great location.

West Coast Legends watch party courtesy of **Bob Lang** once again:

✉ Here's the West Coast Legends at the watch party 9 December 2023. Twenty '67 classmates, plus wives and friends gathered at **Norm Hapke**'s mountaintop residence in La Mesa, CA (San Diego) to watch the game.

L - R: Bob Lang, Pete Burggren, Buddy Barnes, Steve Fisk, Curt Dose, Brad Beaver, Bruce Wright, Rich McNeal, Warren Millard, Bob Ryan, Jack Feehan, "Soup" Campbell, Tim Hoffman, Pete Phelps, Bill Stedfield, Dick Glasow, Gordon Pettus, Norm Hapke, Steve Andres, Paul Ward.

Here's a note from **Ed Kerins** with a promise I'll hold him to:

✉ 31st Company is preparing for a "mini reunion" in New Orleans in early March. 13 of our group will be attending, along with wives.



'67: The Legends at Hapke's



'67: All those McConnells on the Jumbotron!

We plan on spending a day at the WWII museum. This will be our second 31st Company gathering, the first in San Antonio 2 and a half years ago. I am glad to report that all of us are relatively healthy. I heard from **Buddy Walker** a short while ago, who reported he had a bout with cancer last year and came out on top. It takes a tough guy to last as long as we have. I will send you photos late in March when we return.

I'll be looking for those pictures, Ed!

Bill Belden sent this note with a link. Take a look at it:

✉ A couple of months ago, I came across a website called Veterans Legacy Memorial - run by the VA. I couldn't find any info on **Hal Andersen**, so I wrote them. They responded with a link to his page, and on Hal's page is an opportunity to add

Here's the link Bill turned up. If you're able, leave a tribute or memory:
<https://shorturl.at/jqvAW>.

And I'm scratching the bottom of the mailbag so that's all there is. We've actually seen some winter outside here in Maryland, but it hasn't been too bad. I know some of you have had worse. Everybody take care, and send me some good stuff for my column. If you don't, all you're likely to get next time is the pictures Ed Kerins said he'd send and whatever else I can make up.

...That's it...Goodnight!...Jim

'68

Life Membership: 62%
Donor Participation: 26.93%

Pres: **CAPT Gary A. Storm, USN (Ret.)**
2725 Cabernet Ln., Annapolis, MD 21401
p: 410-757-7156; c: 443-924-1130; e: gastorm@verizon.net

Corr Sec'y: **CAPT Gordon I. Peterson, USN (Ret.)**
5200 Brittany Dr., S., Apt. #102, St. Petersburg, FL 33715
p: 703-282-3411; e: gpeters621@aol.com

Website: www.usna68.com

Congratulations to **Denny Blair** for his richly deserved selection as a 2024 USNA Distinguished Graduate. This year's awards will be presented Friday, 22 March, at 4:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Denny's lifetime of service



Denny Blair

and distinguished achievement during his 34-year Navy career included command of the U.S. Pacific Command and other high-level assignments, notably at the White House, the Joint Staff in the Pentagon, and the National Security

Council. Following retirement in 2002 he was the president of the Institute for Defense Analyses, then returned to government service as the third Director of National Intelligence. In recent years he has played leadership roles in non-profit organizations addressing longstanding national security challenges.

Following the Alumni Association's December announcement, Denny had this to say: "The Distinguished Graduate Award is much more than personal recognition. In every assignment over the past 55 years there have been classmates on the team. The four years in

68/68 CLASS NEWS

Annapolis form bonds that are forever. So, the award is for all of us."

Hearty congratulations as well to Charlie Bolden! The National Maritime Historical Society will present its 2024 Distinguished Service Award to him at its awards dinner 18 April at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. This distinctive award recognizes Charlie's remarkable career as a U.S. Marine aviator and general officer, astronaut, and NASA Administrator. "Through these awards," the Society stated, "we demonstrate that positive strides can be made in preserving our important maritime heritage and encourage others to follow the example set by our honorees." The awards dinner is open to all. Visit the society's website at <https://seahistory.org/washington-2024/> for additional information and a link to register.



Then-NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden testifying on Capitol Hill in 2010.

Rick Buchanan reports that **Rick Miller's** son, Scott, was on the Navy flag list in January for appointment to rear admiral (lower half). Congratulations! "He was CO of the carrier CARL VINSON, an F-18 pilot, and is a USNA Class of 1994 graduate," Rick B said. Scott is currently serving as branch head for carriers in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Just weeks before our 55th reunion, Treanne and Rick were with Scott aboard VINSON in San Diego for a Family Day cruise.

Throughout his decades-long career coaching football, **Nick Metrokotsas** has sought to develop positive character traits in his players on and off the field. He also encourages coaches to emphasize character building in their athletic programs. Nick's book *Coaching With P.R.I.D.E.* (perseverance, respect, integrity, desire, and enthusiasm) explains why and how. Good sportsmanship—treating opposing players and others with respect—figures significantly in this regard. Most recently, Nick elaborated on its importance in an article aimed at the coaching profession published in *Coach & A.D.* magazine's February edition. He emphasized why character building must take place first if you expect an athlete to understand and adhere to sportsmanship rules. "That's what I call proactive coaching," Nick states in the article.

During the lead up to the Army-Navy game in Foxborough, MA, **Lenny Mrozak** reported



'68: Lenny Mrozak, sixth from left, with part of the large group who cheered midshipmen running the Army-Navy game ball to Foxborough, MA.

that 13th Company midshipmen continued the tradition of running the game ball from Annapolis to the site of the game—despite the distance of 450 miles being more than double its normal length. "I was able to join a group of alumni and the mids' parents to welcome the runners at a planned stop at a grammar school in Whippany, NJ," Lenny said. "The group was larger than expected as we gathered pre-0700 in anticipation of their estimated arrival. As the runners approached, they were met with smiles and shouts of GO Navy and BEAT Army! Amazingly, the mids looked no worse for wear." The midshipmen alternated running many of the nine-to-10-mile legs.

In early December, Margo and **John McKay** traveled to El Salvador. John testified in the ongoing trial for the murder of four Dutch journalists in March 1982 by Salvadoran Army soldiers during the Salvadoran Civil War. As the first U. S. Naval Attaché accredited to the Republic of El Salvador at the time, John was the first U. S. official to do an on-site investigation within four hours of the journalists' deaths. The ultimate goal of the trial is to establish responsibility and adjudicate accountability.

After becoming professor emeritus at George Washington University in 2022, **Clay Warren** and his wife, Gitte, have embarked on "bucket list" trips. Last September they explored Greenland and Iceland. "Every day in Ilulissat was an adventure as we trekked across Greenlandic rocky terrain with a beautiful fiord as background," Dave said. "In Iceland, we drove by Grindavik (site of a subsequent volcanic eruption) and stayed in a glass cottage that afforded awesome views of the Northern Lights. For those who are interested in such a trip, I'd recommend sooner rather than later as time rushes away like wild horses over the hills. Adding to my collection of words for cheers (begun plebe year), I now can offer "Kasuutta" to all!"



Clay and Gitte Warren at Iceland's Seljalandsfoss waterfall.

Cross-country and track & field athletes in our class joined alumni spanning many decades to honor Navy Coach Al Cantello following his death in January at the age of 92. Al was described as a "legend" as both an assistant and head coach during his 55-year career, a span that including 50 years as head coach for the men's cross-country team. **Jim Dare** was one of six alumni who competed at the U.S. Olympic Track & Field Trials. Jim did so twice—in 1968 and again in 1972 when he qualified as an alternate for Team USA. Al had a profound influence on his athletes. "Al was my coach for the shot put during my four years on our indoor and outdoor T&F teams," reflected **Dick "Kruko" Krulis**. "When I served at the Academy as an instructor (1983-1985), I worked with him. We became good friends. As a coach he taught me many lessons that served me well in my post-military career and proved most beneficial when dealing with my contemporaries. He was absolutely a fantastic coach. I will always cherish the time I spent with him."

As the assistant track & field coach during our years at the Academy, Al primarily coached field events, but he also was attentive to runners. "He was my friend since 1964 and

mentor since 1964," said distance runner **Paul Gaffney**. "His admiration for midshipmen athletes was unwavering. His piercing analyses of attitudes, performances, tactics, and opposing teams led him to the NCAA Hall of Fame and made him the winningest coach over Army, ever."

In closing, as I was finalizing this column for *Shipmate*, we learned that the 28th Company's **Dave Beard** died on 20 January. Subsequent to the submission of the January-February column to *Shipmate*, the 32nd Company's **Denny Young** died on 12 December and the 5th Company's **Bob Munsey** on 8 December. May they rest in peace. Please see their entries in this or a future Last Call.

Dave Beard died while in hospice care in Pensacola. He excelled in academics, leadership, and athletics at the Academy as a first-set company commander, captain of our varsity squash team, and winning player on the tennis team. As a Marine aviator he flew F-4J's and then Harriers. Following graduation from USN Test Pilot School, he served as an instructor at TPS. An ejection at high speed from a disabled aircraft resulted in serious injuries and medical retirement in 1981. Dave worked for Northrop Grumman for 25 years. For about half of that time he was responsible for managing its ethics program. Retiring from Northrop in 2006, he established an ethics speaking and consulting company. Dave is survived by his brother, Timothy, son Benjamin, and daughters Katie and Maggie. His funeral Mass was held 30 January, with interment following at Barrancas National Cemetery at Naval Air Station, Pensacola. Company mate **Carl Gaines** said it well: "I remember Dave as the embodiment of duty and honor, a paragon of the ideal military officer. Kind, Unmatched in character. One on whom you could rely without question. I am forever proud to call him a company-mate and Navy brother."

Denny Young died 12 December at the Palo Alto VA Hospital in California after entering hospice care in early November following a long battle with cancer. **Marty Gunther** visited Denny three times during hospice care—including 9 December to watch the Army-Navy game. Denny's daughter, LCDR Brittany (Young) Tuttle '09, USNR, said, "One of my last favorite memories of him will be watching the Army-Navy game with him, Marty, and my brother, Chris. While Navy couldn't pull out one last win for my dad, I know he was so proud to be a part of such a great organization and great class." A non-graduating classmate owing to "a disagreement with the AC Board," Denny had a career with United Airlines. Over the decades he remained very actively engaged with our class. Former Class President Joe Conway noted that Denny was our only non-graduating classmate who was voted as an "honorary classmate." As Company mate Joe Sikes reflected, "The whole class will feel the hole in our reunions without Denny there." Denny regularly contributed news for our

column describing visits with classmates. I dubbed him my "West Coast correspondent." In addition to Brittany and Chris, Denny is survived by four sisters and his mother, Betty. His funeral was held 18 January in Honolulu, HI.

Bob Munsey died 8 December while hospitalized in Melbourne, FL. He enlisted in the Naval Reserve in high school in Norfolk, VA, and obtained a presidential nomination to the Academy. After graduation and initial sea duty, Bob attended Aircraft Maintenance School and was designated an aviation maintenance duty officer. Assignments on several aircraft carriers and shore tours followed including the OPNAV staff and the staff of Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic concluding with retirement as a captain. Bob retired in Virginia Beach, VA, with his wife, Rosemary, and three children. Later, following his wife's death, he moved to Port Saint John, FL in 2003. During his remaining years, Bob enjoyed attending and volunteering at church, numerous hobbies, fishing, and restoring vintage aircraft at the Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum in Titusville, FL. Bob is survived by his sons, Bill, Chad, and daughter, Kellye. Funeral services were held 15 December at Port Saint John, FL.

All the best and take care, **Gordo**

'69

Life Membership: 59%
Donor Participation: 29.26%

Pres: **Steve Comiskey**

e: swcomiskey@gmail.com

Exec Vice Pres: **Jim "Sandy" Sandberg**

Corr Sec'y: **Pat Stroop**

p: 410-279-4575; e: pstroop@hotmail.com

Sec'y: **Dr. Steve Hudock**

p: 571-419-0290; e: shudock@1969.USNA.com

Treas: **Ron Gumbert**

4300 Summertime Ln., Helena, MT 59602

e: rongumbert@icloud.com

Website: www.usna69.org

Hello '69! Spring is right around the corner! 2024 will graduate in 2 short months! Andy Rooney was right...life is like a roll of toilet paper...the closer you get to the end, the faster it goes!!

First things first: some of you who are alert may have noticed that the caption underneath our picture highlighting the Class of 1969

Mighty Fine Patio at the Fluegel Alumni Center in November-December might not have been correct. We meant to say that the following were in the picture: **Todd Creekman, Lanny and Ethel Hunt, Owen and Suzanne McLean, Dan and Cindy Johnson, Jim and Marja Sandberg, and Stephen Leaman and Debbie Ainslie**. And as a bonus, here is the picture again (taken in September when short sleeve shirts and open toe shoes were the preferred option. A Get-Out-of-Jail-Free card has been issued to each!

Here is a summary of our home football games from my bride, Mary: Six home games, four wins (three of them shutouts), lots of local and out of town Navy fans, good weather (except for having to temporarily evacuate the stands due to threatening storms!) - the 2023 Navy home football season has ended. Friday nights found the class of 1969 at Caliente Grill in Annapolis (kudos to Roxana, Raul, and Nelson!), Saturdays found us tailgating with the class of 1984 before going into the stadium, Saturday nights having dinner with classmates, and Sundays enjoying brunch at the Eastport Yacht Club (thanks, **Al and Aida Cipriani!**). We were always, always, always surrounded by great friends and family members, active duty and retired Navy and Marines, amazing food and drinks, and of course the Brigade, which is why we do this year after year. Has USNA changed in the years since '69 and '84 graduated? Yes, of course, but our midshipmen are still among the best of the best and America should be extremely proud. Now...BEAT ARMY!!!! NB: Well, as we now know, that did not happen this year in the Great Northeast, but we get another chance at FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland next year!

From **Todd Creekman**:

✉ We've all heard the stories of Naval Academy rings found and returned in unusual circumstances.



Brad at Beat Army watch party with his returned mug

Recently a variation of that story emerged concerning a Class of 1969 mug, apparently lost 50 years ago and returned in November 2023 to its owner, **Brad Beall**. The saga, still a bit shrouded in mystery, goes like this: during youngster year, 1st company



'69: Class of 1969 Mighty Fine Patio at the Fluegel Alumni Center



'69: Calvert Group at A Ga Ming Sundance

displayed a logo in its wardroom featuring a strange "thumbs down" character designed by '69 classmate Jack Bailey. Sometime that year we commissioned mugs to be made featuring that logo (with thumbs up!) on one side and our class crest and name of our choice on the reverse. Some of us chose to get two mugs made, with our own names on both, or the name of a father or grandfather on one, or the name of a girlfriend! In Brad's case, he got two with "Brad" under the class crest, and at some point, must have gifted one to a friend, who promptly lost (or ditched!) that mug on a Long Island, NY beach where it was found by a passer-by sometime later. That individual held on to the mug for decades, and only recently his brother sought to locate the mug's owner. The '69 crest and "Brad" label were the clues, and this individual, consulting our class website, reached out to corresponding secretary **Pat Stroop** for help. Within a short period, the mug, relatively intact, was returned to a perplexed Brad, who can't quite recall how the mug may have come to be lost on that beach (though Brad is a New Yorker and spent time at local beaches in his younger years). A quick survey of other 1st/25th Company classmates reveals that many still have one or more of these mugs proudly displayed at home; some re-acquiring their second mug after the death of the relative to whom it had been presented many years ago. And some of us still have an original mug with a girlfriend's name embossed below the crest and can only assume a companion mug is out there somewhere! Perhaps that former girlfriend has discarded that mug too, and we can expect to be treated to another found mug saga someday!

From **Doug Bishop**:

✉ The Calvert Group of '69 held its annual Northern Michigan Outing in Traverse, Michigan in early August. All enjoyed four days of golf and frivolity. See the picture above of the group.

From **15th Company**:

✉ Chris Miller, nephew of our deceased classmate **George Foote** (tragically lost in a car

accident in 1974), recently wrote Todd Creekman and asked if he could put him in touch with any classmate who had stories to share about George so that he could include them in a family history project. Led by Dennis Bussey and Nestor White, the stories the guys came up with were humorous, fantastic and suitable for sharing! Apparently, George spent a lot of his free time at St John's with some of his pals plus he had some weird study habits! Gratitude from George's nephew, Chris: "What I am sure about is George was a kind person who was incredibly smart and not easily

defined. Your emails helped to confirm this for me and I am grateful." Bravo Zulu 15!

From **Dennis Bussey**:

✉ **Harold Armet** drove down to Virginia from New York to join me for a couple days of local fun and my 7 December presentation. Below is a picture of a report on the day's events the next day in the Richmond newspaper.

From **Tom Schram**:

✉ This past fall Betsy and I traveled east to see our daughter and along the way we managed to catch up with Carole and Dave Ehemann along with Jan Alfieri (Paul's widow) for dinner. We were in the 23rd Company together. Dave was the SENIOR member of the company since he had prior service!



Seated: Betsy Schram, Dave Ehemann, Carole Ehemann; standing: Jan Alfieri and Tom Schram

A SON RELIVES PEARL HARBOR

Dec 8, 2023

Dennis Bussey, whose father survived the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, shares his dad's experiences during a keynote address as part of the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony at the Shrine of Memory at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond on Thursday.

'69

Then about six weeks later, Betsy and I caught up with **Tom and Karen Pitman**, also of the 23rd Company and a Marine Colonel, USMCR, (Retired).



Tom and Karen Pitman with Tom and Betsy Schram

We are all looking forward to the 55th reunion next year and seeing classmates and company mates from the famous 23rd.

'69 has another author! What follows is from **Randy Brooks** (email RBrooks47@sc.rr.com)

✉ Just wanted to let you know that my book *The Jumpin' Joey: Life and Challenge on an Iconic Old Tin Can* is now available on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. Be sure you type *Jumpin'* with an apostrophe. The *Jumpin' Joey* is about the first ship Randy served on as chief engineer before he switched over to submarines for the remainder of his naval career. The book has something for every reader: a studied analysis of mid-twentieth century geopolitical and military history, a rigorous technical exposition on to keep a "Tin Can" Navy destroyer up to speed and mission-ready, and reflections by a freshly minted naval officer learning about life and leadership on his first seagoing assignment – something many of us can relate to!

I send along this email from our class president, **Steve Comiskey**, about the Honor Our Fallen Heroes on 11 November. The email summarizes all that happened that weekend and originated from the Point of Contact at the Alumni Association. I encourage you to read it all the way through and even click on the attachments. If you would like to receive the message by email, please let me know (my email address is in the column header).

✉ Dear Friends and Shipmates,

It has been just over one month since our memorable day together on Veterans Day, 11 November 2023, honoring the 36 fallen heroes at the 11th annual *Honor Our Fallen Heroes* event in Annapolis. In that time, we have been blessed with reflections and feedback from many of you – thank you for sharing those with us.

One of those reflections stands out – this LinkedIn post <https://www.linkedin.com/posts/philipncampbell_dear-frank-it-has-been-a-long-time-my-friend-activity-7129898949376667648-OJHC?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop> from

Phil Campbell '94, classmate of fallen hero LCDR **Frank Wittwer '94** and escort for Frank's family on 11 November. We believe Phil captured the spirit of the day with grace.

Please enjoy these additional mementos of the day:

This video

<<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trucidPQ6QVs>> created by our digital communications team, with Midshipman First Class **Christie Linnard '24** as guest videographer. Our special thanks to those gold star family members who shared their stories with us, in the video and throughout the day.

This photo album

<<https://www.flickr.com/photos/unitedstatesnavalacademy/albums/72177720312647884/>> of the memorial service in Memorial Hall courtesy of the Naval Academy Public Affairs Office.

These photos and captions

<<https://www.capitalgazette.com/2023/11/11/usna-honor-our-fallen-heroes-photos/>> of the memorial service courtesy of the Annapolis Capital Gazette.

From the Naval Academy Athletic Association, our stadium moment of silence <<https://vimeo.com/883728574/aabef6b143>> at the Navy-UAB football game.

The Alumni Association welcomes more of your feedback as we continue to refine our service to you and to our heroes. Please click <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=N_cNngPxjUeOzb0wppYd808Xbc9gvCdEhvSnOJjiftkUQ0xINEFQV-TROSTM4MzINSVxkUFRTSEMwQy4u> to let us know what you found meaningful, and how we can improve. We hope you will join us in Annapolis for the 12th annual event in Fall 2024. We will be in touch in the late spring with our Save The Date. In the meantime, if you know another USNA gold star family you didn't see at this year's event, we would be most grateful for you to share the news with them about next year. Our goal is to touch every USNA gold star family and welcome them back to Annapolis every fall.

The Spring 2024 P-rade Schedule has just been released: The Naval Academy Brigade of Midshipmen will present formal dress parades on Worden Field this spring semester at the following dates and times:

Friday, April 12 at 4 p.m.

Friday, April 26 at 4 p.m.

(Dedication Parade)

Thursday, May 23 at 11 a.m. (Color Parade)

I leave you with this final thought:

Whenever I try to eat healthy, a chocolate bar looks at me and snickers!

Non Sibi.

DONATE ONLINE

Support the Annual Academy Fund,
visit usna.com/give.

'70

Life Membership: 63%

Donor Participation: 28.70%

Pres: CDR Edmund E. Moore, USN (Ret.)
e: edmund.moore@gmail.com

Sec'y: LTJG Gary Knight, USN (Ret.)
46141 Seabiscuit Ct., Lexington Park, MD 20653
e: cherica2@atlanticbb.net

Webmaster: Ed Moore
e: edmund.moore@gmail.com

Website: <http://1970.usnaclases.com>

Please join me in wishing our venerable scribe, **Royal Connell**, a speedy recovery from his health challenges which have laid him low and necessitated my temporary role as his replacement.

Dickie Powers (7th company) departed this earth in Revere, MA, on November 14, at 75, following a 2 and a half-year battle with lung cancer. Rhea Cosgrove of Lexington Park, MD, widow of **Mike Cosgrove** (8) (who passed in 2013) passed away on November 4 at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD, after a courageous battle with cancer. **Bill Nurthen** (1), 74, of Ocean Township, NJ, passed peacefully and surrounded by his family, after a brief illness in October. Captain Nurthern's 27-year navy career culminated with CO of the USS VALDEZ (FF-1096) and Major Command at Military Sealift Command Atlantic (MSCLANT) in Bayonne, NJ. He subsequently worked for the NY port authority where he survived the 9/11 attack. Sandra Davis, wife of **Dave Davis** (6) passed away on October 26 in Edinboro, PA.

This writing is during the hallowed Christmas season following another dispiriting loss to Army. We'll get 'em next year! As you know, each year before the big game, the members of the 13th company run a football from USNA to the stadium. This is a photo of one of those Mids taken with a 1970 former 13th company commander **Gene Cuccaro**.



70/70 CLASS NEWS



'70: Army Navy Club of Fairfax

On December 13 we had the Second Class luncheon at the Army Navy Club of Fairfax. Thanks to **Don Patterson** for setting this up; the next one will be in Annapolis on March 15, hosted by **Grant Thorpe**

Another lunch for 36th company classmates is being held as a Dark Ages lunch on January 11, hosted by **Carl Weiscopf**.

Carl is also setting up a mini-reunion for January in San Diego. The tentative itinerary is as follows:

MONDAY - 22 JAN 24: Check-in Best Western plus Hacienda Hotel in Old Town; dinner in Old Town

TUESDAY - 23 JAN 24: Lunch, Admiral Baker Golf Course club house; Wives shopping; visit Balboa Park; dinner Little Italy

WEDNESDAY - 24 JAN 24: Guided tour and lunch USS Midway Museum; visit Coronado and Hotel del Coronado; dinner in Coronado

MONDAY - 22 JAN 24: Check-in Best Western plus Hacienda Hotel in Old Town; dinner in Old Town

TUESDAY - 23 JAN 24: Lunch, Admiral Baker Golf Course club house; Wives shopping; visit Balboa Park; dinner Little Italy

WEDNESDAY - 24 JAN 24: Guided tour and lunch USS Midway Museum; visit Coronado and Hotel del Coronado; dinner in Coronado

THURSDAY, 25 JAN 24: San Diego Safari Park (TRUCK ADVENTURE); hike Torrey Pines Beach; dinner Gas Lamp Quarter

FRIDAY, 26 JAN 24: check out of hotel Sounds great! Have fun, guys!

The 6th company had a mini-reunion at **Dan Akerson's** home on the Eastern Shore. A portion of "Dirty Thirty" held a get together recently. Precipitated by **Bill** and **Teri Jenkins** coming to town to see their son **Bill** (Class of 2009) receive a PHD. **Dianne** and **Brad Nemeth** hosted an informal dinner for **Wil** and **Dede Hollowell**, **David Oberholtzer** and **Stephanie Sontag** (Stephanie was a classmate of Brad's in law school) **Rick** and **Jan Farley**, and **Mike Oliver** (Lois had duty caring for grandchildren and could not attend).



'70 get together of the San Diego contingent of Dirty Thirty



'70: 6th Company: Front Row: Tom Nichols, Hall Dillon, Paul Hurd, Jim Perry, Jim Sheppard and Jim Swoope; Back Row: Dave Davis, Ed Tempesta, Pete Patrick, Dan Kestly, Dan Akerson and Tom Wolfe

Bob Viney writes:

✉ 24th company had a mini-reunion in Pensacola and this is an update on the submarine cold war memorial project. We have secured the \$6.5 Million we need for the construction of the memorial, including the full size replica of the USS Cincinnati (SSN 693). They will break ground in March, 2024, and will have a ribbon cutting on April 11, 2025, which is the 125th anniversary of the submarine force. They are planning a public announcement event in February, after completing our appeal to major donors in Cincinnati. He will be sending out a link to the website in the next few weeks as soon as it is optimized for cell phones.

To update you on the planning for the 55th reunion in April 2025, my committee is presently planning for the following events: Headquarters is the Crown Plaza in Parole which will be accepting reservations next April. Thursday, April 24 will have maybe a golf tournament, and an opening reception at the Akerson Tower. Friday, April 25 will have a bike ride, a tour of the new Hopper Hall, maybe a walking tour of the Yard, a lunch at the new Alumni Hall featuring remarks by the Supt, attendance at a Spring P-rade, and a stand-up reception at the hotel (in lieu of a sit-down banquet). Saturday, April 26 features a class meeting, a memorial service, an Army-Navy lax game (if scheduled), a boat tour of Annapolis Harbor and surrounding waters, and perhaps company competitions. Sunday, April 27 will have a brunch at King Hall in the Yard. Stay tuned.

Our very own **Bill** and **Mary Beth Barry** (1) were on a float in The Rose Bowl Parade. They were on the "Core Kidney" float, the 13th float in the line of march. I hope you saw them..



Ring-A-Ding-Ding!

CHAPTER NEWS

Alabama

BGO Area Coordinator: **Brian Campbell '94, USNR**
p: 251-776-4000; e: Brian.Campbell@1994.usna.com

USNA Alabama Alumni Chapter

Pres: **Greg Hess '85**
p: 205-307-9191; e: greghess8599@charter.net
Vice Pres, Central Alabama: **Eric Riddle '94**
p: 469-363-4295; e: ericriddle94@gmail.com

Vice Pres, Northern Alabama: **Michael McFarland '04**
p: 713-410-2155; e: mjmcfarland7@aol.com

Treas: **Dennis Read '59**
p: 205-879-6617; e: dsread2010@gmail.com

Exec Assist: **Carolyn Freeman, son, Reid '24**
e: usna.ala@gmail.com

South Alabama Chapter

Pres: **CDR Brian Campbell '94, USNR**
p: 251-776-4000; e: Brian.Campbell@1994.usna.com
Sec'y: **Ruth Lichtenfeld**
p: 251-343-6264; e: ruth29@bellsouth.net

Arizona

BGO Area Coordinator: **Susan Wester**
e: sjw456@icloud.com

Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Capt David M. English '86, USMCR**
e: David.English@1986.usna.com

Sec'y: **Steven W. Ranes '02**
e: StevenWRanes@gmail.com

Website: <http://arizona.usnachapters.com>

Northern Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Charlie Bomberger '74**
p: 928-4999-9605; e: cbomberger74@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Juan Segovia '88**
p: 949-235-4083; e: the5Segovias@gmail.com

Southern Arizona Chapter

Pres: **Thom Rossa '63**
e: TRossa@hayes-soloway.com

Sec'y: **Jim Hillenmayer '73**
e: jhillenmayer73@msn.com

Website: <http://southernarizona.usnachapters.com>

Arkansas

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Chucoski**
e: david.chucoski@gmail.com

Arkansas Chapter

Pres: **Steve Colley '08**
e: stevecolley84@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Doug Waller '02**
e: waller_doug@yahoo.com

Sec'y Treas: **Jason Coyle '09**
e: jason.coyle@gmail.com

Asia

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Turbeville '01**
e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

Guam Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Noel M. Enriquez '84, USNR**
P.O. Box 26849, GMF, Barrigada, GU 96921-6849
h: 671-472-9629; f: 671-472-1966
c: 671-777-9629; e: NME@1984.usna.com

Philippines Chapter

Pres: **COMMO Alberto B. Carlos '89, AFP**
p: +63-2-525-1003; m: +63-917-521-1637
e: carlosabet@yahoo.com

Sec'y: **Capt Carl Roy Catalan '08, PMC (PN)**
p: +63-917-706-8042; e: Roitime23@gmail.com

Website: www.groups.yahoo.com/communityusnaphil

Singapore Chapter

Pres: **Say Yong Tan '05**
e: say@2005.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Andy Harrell '12**
e: andyh125@gmail.com

Sec'y: **LTJG Nicole Uchida '12, USN**
e: Nicole.Uchida@fe.navy.mil

Chapter Email: USNASG@gmail.com

Republic of Korea Chapter

Pres: **CDR Chong "John" M. Yi '85, USN**
e: John.M.Yi@raytheon.com

Tokyo Bay Chapter

Pres: **Daniel J Zoot '91**
1-15-19-301 Minami-Aoyama
Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0062
e: shishifunjin@gmail.com

California

Los Angeles Chapter

Pres: **Adrian Montecinos '14**
p: 562-587-3690; e: admont19@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Paris Scott '12**
p: 949-756-4286; e: pscoot89@gmail.com

Treas: **Michael Seaver '83**
e: michaelseaver@gmail.com

National Trustee: **Brian DeJarnett**
e: Brian@dejarnett.net

BGO Area Coordinator (LA County/Orange County):
CDR Steve Shatynski '83, USN (Ret.)

p: 714-255-6108
e: Stephan.shatynski@wellsfargoadvisors.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Riverside/San Bernardino):
CDR Bill Lauper, USN (Ret.)
p: 619-840-2846; e: lauperwm@gmail.com



2023 Distinguished Chapter

Monterey Bay Chapter

Pres: **Maj. Rebecca "Becky Singh" '03, USNR**
e: usnaalumnimontereybay@gmail.com

Corr Sec'y: **Steve Tackett '87**
e: stackett99@yahoo.com

Website: <http://montereybay.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Bob Garcia**
e: bob@coeususa.com

Army-Navy 2023

Despite the outcome, Monterey Chapter had a good time at The Trident Room watching Army v. Navy. It was again a packed house of grads spanning generations. Cheers to next year! - **Becky Singh '03**



Shannon Dillman '19, Jacob Burns '19 & family



Joseph Wiggins '66 & son Brandon Wiggins



Kathleen & Matthew Schaidle '14, Keon & Katelyn Briscoe '15 (+ Class of 2045 X 2)



Rozel Hernandez '17

2023 Vice Admiral Dick Miller Memorial USNA-USMA Golf Challenge

Amidst a November morning of thunder and downpour, the Monterey Bay Chapter hosted the 2023 Vice Admiral Dick Miller Memorial Golf Challenge at The Pines. Team Navy was represented by **Rear Adm. Jerry Ellis '64 (Ret.)**, **John Alich '64**, **Bob Whitlock '66**, **Doug Hintze '83**, **Dan Kuratko '05** and **Ben Lowe '18**. Unfortunately, Army won (this time). We all enjoyed a day of camaraderie, sea stories, and lots of trash talk from both sides.



Doug Hintze '83 preparing to win the highest score for the Navy side.

Classmates Jerry Ellis and John Alich '64 share a golf cart after Chow Calls are complete



Bob Whitlock teaches our West Point counterparts the finer things of playing the green.



Rear Adm. Ellis demonstrates the art of the short game.

Sacramento Chapter

Pres: **Terri (Riggs) Maginnis '82**
 p: 916-203-5115; e: tmaginnis@yahoo.com
 Vice Pres: **Brian Grubbs '92**
 p: 916-712-1747; e: bgrubbs1992@gmail.com
 Sec'y: **Paul Deveaux '96**
 e: paul@pauldeveaux.com
 Treas: **Alan Abbs '91**
 e: alanabbs@gmail.com
 Treas: **Jack Everett '64**
 e: jeverett@quicknet.com
 Past Pres: **Dennis P. Joyce '61**
 p: 916-996-1333; e: djoyce1961@hotmail.com



San Diego Chapter: Charlie Carey, Carl Weiscopef, Neil Finn, Will Hollowell, George Galdorisi, Russ Olso, Rob Meyer, Tom Flaherty and Denny McBain.

San Diego Chapter

Pres: **Keith Kitagawa '92**
 e: president@usnaaasd.com
 Vice Pres 1: **Debbie Balsley '93**
 Vice Pres 2: **Michael Philbrook '83**
 Treas: **Juan Rose III '04**
 e: treasurer@usnaaasd.com
 Sec'y: **Mark Powers '06**
 e: secretary@usnaaasd.com
 Corr Sec'y: **Charlie Carey '70**
 p: 619-589-0945; e: cdcarey@1970.USNA.com
 Website: <http://usnaaasd.com>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Philbrook '83**
 e: michael.philbrook@1983.usna.com



It has been a while since our last SHIPMATE submission and this edition takes us all the way back to the Army Navy game which was so close and yet so far. Just inches to at least tie and have a shot at a great win. Always next year. The San Diego Chapter sponsored many different venues for game watching and one of the main

ones was downtown. Our senior attendee was **Dick Everet '68** pictured below.



Dick Everet '68 with junior attendee at downtown venue.

Also in December we had a Happy Hour pop-up in Coronado with the soon to be Superintendent **VADM Yvette Davids '89** in attendance. Everyone had a relaxed, informally good time which is a standard for events in San Diego. Our guest with a few others pictured on the next page.



San Francisco Chapter: North Bay: Led by Cheriene Griffith '02 at the Bird in Santa Rosa. List of attendees not available. See "Viewing Party" writeup on the next page.

CHAPTER NEWS



Katie Christman '08, VADM Davids '89, Wayne Goodroe '65 and MIDN Mekenzie Espinola '26

We are holding our lunches on a quarterly basis now and kicked the new year off with **George Galdorisi '70** talking about how to be a writer. George has written many books alone (17) and also in collaboration with other authors in addition to holding down his other job as the Director of Strategic Assessments and Technical Futures for the Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific. George's outline on writing was very methodical and interesting and he received many questions from the audience. George was well supported as many of his classmates from 1970 showed up to hear the presentation. A group picture is on the previous page.

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Pres: **Mike Fazio '85**
e: mikefaz85@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Vacant**

Secy.: **Ray Fazio '57**
e: rayfaz57@pacbell.net

Treas.: **Brian Frack '89**
e: frackbrian@gmail.com

Website: <http://sfbayarea.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LT Paul Kepner '04, USN (Ret)**
e: paulmkepner@gmail.com

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaasfbayarea>

Instagram: [@usnaa_sfbaychapter](https://www.instagram.com/usnaa_sfbaychapter)

BGO Area Coordinator: **Bob Garcia**
e: bob@coeususa.com

The Chapter held a networking get together in downtown San Francisco on 30 Nov. Alumni met for social and business networking, swapping sea stories from USNA and the business world. **Matt Sturges '89**, gave a quick talk on the Moffett Field Museum and the importance on business networking. A nice time was had by all.

ARMY NAVY VIEWING PARTIES

South Bay a Led by **Spence Leslie '74** at Fibbar Magee's: In Sunnyvale, CA See one of the photos on the previous page and this page.

Santa Barbara Chapter

Pres: **Stephen L.A. Callahan '81**

Treas: **CAPT Stephen H. Huber '80, USN (Ret.)**

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Greg McGiffney**
e: Greg.McGiffney@bgo.usna.com

Chapter email: usnaasantabarbarachapter@gmail.com

Web: <http://santabarbara.usnachapters.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/santabarbarachapterusna.9>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/usnaalums_santabarbara/



San Francisco Chapter: November Networking Event - Alumni in attendance were: Jason Aepli '09; Dan Beck '99; Andrew Chacko '93; Devan Cross '93; Ray Fazio '57; Mike Fazio '85; Brian Frack '89; James Gafford '78; Steve Hall '75; Nick Kay '99; Ben Moglen '97; Frank Moreman '81; Ryan Pinch '18; Michael Rogers '05; Justin Rogers '11; Joshua Shamrakov '18; Eric Smith '11; John (Pete) Stevenson '00; Renee Tanake '97; Eashar Thenrattinam '18 ; and Andrew Zakem '91



San Francisco Chapter: East Bay led by Jason Aepli '09 at the Stadium Pub in Walnut Creek. Army-Navy game viewing party alumni in attendance listed alphabetically: Jason Aepli '09; Brian Clegg '05; Devan Cross '93; Frederic Ewing '05; Tyler Faccar '02; Ray Fazio '57; Mike Fazio '85; Jeff Hall '83; Chris Kaiser '92; Norman Marks '67; Art Odem '82; Ryan Pjinch '18; Brian Primeaux '17; Megan Primeaux '17; Richard Stark '64; and Renee Tanaka '97



San Francisco Chapter: South Bay - Watch Party Fibbar Magee's, Sunnyvale, CA. Pete Antoniak '67; Tim Henderson '90; Mike Henny '69; Victoria Hopman '95; Dan Hopman '95; Amir Jenkins '90; Spence Leslie '74; Glenn Porterfield '92; Charlie Shoemaker '64; Kent Ubewacker '87; Mike Wanebo '87 and Mark Watkins '90.



San Francisco: San Francisco led by Joshua Shamrakov '18 at Lost Marbles. Attendees - Nick Clouse '08; Aubrey Cubilo '11; Roy Gale '67; Eric Gonzales '03; Steve Hall '75; John Paul '05; Justin Rogers '11; and Joshua Shamrakov '18

Colorado

Colorado Chapter

Pres: **CAPT S. Guy Higgins '69, USN (Ret.)**
 e: guyhiggins1234@gmail.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Matthew McLaurin '92**
 e: matthew.s.mclaurin@gmail.com

Website: <http://usnacolorado.com>

BGO Area Coordinator (Denver):
CAPT Dick Eason '84, USN (Ret.)
 p: 720-747-4615; e: dick.eason@lycos.com

Greetings fellow Colorado Alumni,

It has been great seeing many of you at our Happy Hour events. Currently we have members hosting quarterly in Denver, Castle Rock and Louisville. Watch your email for announcements on the next event. We are looking for Alumni to host in other locations including Colorado Springs, please contact Kelly or Matt if interested.

We will be holding elections this year for open positions on the Board. Please consider becoming part of the Board and having a say in our Chapter. Watch for an email with more information this Spring or reach out to Kelly or Matt if you are interested in being involved.

As a reminder, your Colorado Chapter is registered with the King Soopers and City Market Community Rewards Program. Alumni who are registered with King Soopers/City Market/Kroger can designate the Chapter to receive cash rewards without any additional cost to the alumni. Please register your card using this link: <https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards>.

Look forward to seeing you at a Chapter event soon.

Go Navy!

Matt McLaurin '92

Colorado Springs Chapter

Pres: **LCDR John Sledgianowski '87, USN (Ret.)**
 p: 719-287-2187; e: sledgesix@msn.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Andrew Graziano**
 e: ajgraziano512@gmail.com

Connecticut

BGO Area Coordinator: **Evan Barnett '91**
 p: 203-249-0071; e: evan@barnetassociates.com

Connecticut Chapter

Pres: **Alan Weigel '79**
 p: 860-376-5775; e: aweigel@blankrome.com

Treas: **Tom Hogsten '85**

Sec'y: **Eric Irwin '86**
 p: 860-857-8748; e: irwiner@comcast.net

Comms Dir: **David Candler '67**
 p: 860-823-0862; e: davcandler@aol.com

Meeting Chairman: **Vacant**

Website: <http://connecticut.usnachapters.net>

Naval Academy Parent Club of CT
 Website: <http://ct.usnaparents.net>

Ahoy!

The highlight of the past month (January) for Alumni was the Connecticut Chapter annual



Connecticut Chapter: Annual Blue & Gold Admissions Dinner

Blue & Gold Admissions Dinner on Thursday, 11 January 2024 at the Officer's Club of Connecticut in Hartford. There was update on the state of the Academy and we met some of the young women and men from Connecticut who are candidates for admission and the Blue and Gold Officers who are guiding them through the admission process. A speaker from the Academy's admissions department and our Blue & Gold Area Coordinator, **Evan Barnett '92**, spoke about the admissions process and answered questions. That annual meeting is always very heartwarming! And the quality of candidates is awesome!

This *Shipmate* issue will be highlighting one of the most loved, most hated, most repressed (in some cases) and most fondly remembered (since you survived) moments and situations of all life. They can be the basis for profane and exclamatory remarks and in some cases the partial foundations for special groups and even religions. And certainly items that have an honorary place for that Special Item from an event (like the hat with the bullet hole thru the edge). The topic is "Close Calls".

Since at this writing the football season is nearing an end, but culminating, I will start there. Have you noticed how the sports articles are depending on rather isolated game moments rather than the real game score and game-play comparisons? In the past couple of days articles from different sources did not tout the game scores, the abilities of each team as a whole, the QB passing and running stats, but often on one penalty, at a important time near the end of the game, and how that was arguable- thus a Close Call that made the whole game riding on it. The other touchdowns received no reporting if they were not close calls. But the excitement and adrenaline of those close moments is often why we watch, and read, ...!

Like for example this year's Army-Navy game and Navy QB sneak at end of the game. Clearly we did not succeed. BUT with only a couple of feet to go for the touchdown at the end of the game, and close score, the game depended on it. So: Close Call.

And an even more startling final second... A-N in 1963, Navy ahead by several points, with Roger the Dodger as QB. Army got the ball and had marched down the field in the past couple

of minutes but had been unstoppable. Less than a yard to go for winning TB. Seconds on the game clock. Army lined up. CROWD WENT WILD cheering for each team. It was literally deafening. Army QB yelled the ????. But his line could not hear him. Referee halted the game due to that over-noise. Pause... a bit quieter... restart... Cheering resumed worse than before! Army QB thought the game would be stopped again. No such luck. The seconds ticked by, no play, game ended. Referees walked off field. Crowd went momentary quiet then exploded. Navy win. CLOSE CALL!

Other than football, we have all had many close calls in our sports. And during our time at the Boat School there were no doubt many. And certainly after graduation, we and our Shipmates have certainly had the Experience (not all opportunities) of many such memorable moments. Perhaps you would like to recount a few of them during quiet moments in the next day or two. And perhaps repress a few as well. Academy grads have a different technical meaning when we say the oft-spoken phrase "Been There, Done That".

Should you have an incident or two of Close Calls that you would like to share, please send them to me: DavCandler@aol.com.

Fair winds...

Dave Candler '67

Costa Rica

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Turbeville '01**
 e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

Costa Rica Chapter

Pres: **Claudio A. Pacheco '64**
 Apt. 4307-1000, San Jose, Costa Rica
 p: 506-2224-4325; w: 506-2225-4239
 c: 506-8876-1394; e: cpacheco@1964.usna.com

CLASS and CHAPTER OFFICERS

Please check your **CLASS** and **CHAPTER** headers. Send us your updates.

CLASS officers, email to:

chapnews@usna.com

CHAPTER officers, email to:

chapternews@usna.com

CHAPTER NEWS

Delaware

BGO Area Coordinator: **Maj Brad Boyd '87, USMC (Ret.)**
p: 302-377-4479; e: Brad.Boyd@bgo.usna.com

Delaware Chapter

Pres: **Chris Dierkes '85**
p: 302-256-8949; h: 302-449-0795
e: Christopher.F.Dierkes-1@usa.dupont.com

Holidays at Hagley - First DuPont Black Powder Yard in America



From left to right: Chris Dierkes '85, Diane Durban '81, Jeff Frye '83, Judy & Bob Perry '81, Lenora & Dan Schroeder '83 and Jerry (Keith) Smith '74 with wife Helene. Picture submitted by Chris & Judy Dierkes.

Delaware Alumni kicked off the holiday season with a trip back in time to the famous Hagley Museum. A visit to the first DuPont family's home in America. Holiday decorations peppered various rooms reflecting how the chemical giant's family celebrated their yuletide season.

Hagley Museum is one of the most inviting, preserved black powder mills since the founding of our country. Beautifully built stone structures built along the Brandywine River served to house a nineteenth-century machine shop (so cool) that depended on water turbines to operate. Line shafts transferred energy while a sixteen-ton roll mill slowly turned to make an end product - black powder. And of course, the explosive "bang" that makes one jump from an impressive black powder demonstration thrilled us all! The thought and complexity of every innovation in engineering and technology will blow your mind (no pun intended). So, get inspired, pick a nice day (preferably no rain in sight) and explore the sights and sounds of Hagley...all within our own backyard!

It was nice to get together following our interesting (but rainy) tour for lunch at nearby McGlynn's Pub. It was great to share the days learnings while warming up to food, drink and new friends! Thank you to all who participated!

Florida

Gainesville Chapter

Pres: **Vacant**
BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR**
e: sswift@1987.usna.com



Orlando Chapter: Post-game pic of Orlando Chapter watch party diehard

Jacksonville Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Scott Neidhold '77, USNR (Ret.)**
e: scottneidholdsr@gmail.com
Vice Pres: **Glen Hamilton '85**
e: glenhamilton@cbvfl.com
Treas and Chapter Trustee: **Enochia Anderson '94**
Sec'y: **Britney Brown '12**
Communication Director: **CDR Nels Frostenson '80, USN (Ret.)**
e: frostynels@aol.com
50 Year+ Alumni Liaison: **CDR Peter Garfield '60, USN (Ret.)**
p: 904-314-9691; e: pgarfield@comcast.net
Website: jacksonville.usnachapters.net
BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard O'Sullivan '77, USN (Ret.)**
p: 407-687-6877; e: raaos@aol.com

Greater Miami Chapter

Pres: **Thor C. Gould '09**
e: thor.gould@gmail.com
Website: www.usnamiami.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAMiami>
BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Dennis R. Neutze '65, JAGC USN (Ret.)
p: 305-705-4722; e: dennis.navy65@goolemail.com

Orlando Chapter

Pres: **Christopher Clark '01**
e: clark15cr@gmail.com
Vice Pres: **Marc Watson '77**
e: marc@marcwatson.com
Sec: **Dave Shikada '79**
e: davidshikada@gmail.com
Treas: **Shawn Wattles '95**
e: shawn.wattles@gmail.com
Webmaster: **Greg Hemphill '72**
e: usnaamembershiporlando@gmail.com
Website: <https://myusna.com/topics/9546>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1415188042037372>
BGO Area Coordinator: **Rich O'Sullivan '77**
e: RAAOS@aol.com

NEW HEADER UPDATE

A good number of spirited Orlando area Navy alumni, family, parents, friends and neighbors (sorry, no cats or dogs!) huddled in Ocoee to enjoy last December's Army-Navy football event. Braving the 79 degree temperature and partly cloudy skies, we sorely missed being at the game. But everyone visibly enjoyed polishing off the impressive spread of tailgate chow,

with a few drinks, while almost willing Navy to a fourth quarter comeback win. Alumni in attendance were **Chris Clark '01, Larry Hays '59, Tom Pax '82, Dave Shikada '79, Shawn Wattles '95, and Dennis Viera '77**. Many thanks to **Greg Hemphill '72** and **Chris Clark** for securing the venue and coordinating the event.

Palm Beach Chapter

Pres: **Ivan Rosa '84**
e: irosa@1984.usna.com
p: 561-758-2358
Vice Pres: **Kate Arrizza '03**
e: karrizza@coxsciencecenter.org
p: 312-925-8519
Sec: **Rick Salvatore '78**
e: rick.salvadore@gmail.com
p: 312-925-7098
Treas: **Vacant**
BGO Area Coordinator: **Capt Dennis R. Neutze '65, JAGC USN (Ret)**
e: dennis.navy65@goolemail.com
p: 305-705-4722

Army-Navy Watch Party

Duffy's Sports Bar in Palm Beach Gardens was the scene for our annual Army-Navy game watch party with the local WP chapter. Great turnout. This was the final watch party of the 2023 season that had many of our alumni participating over the course of the season. While we may not have won the game, we won the party with over 20 alumni and guests in attendance. Lots of great sea-stories and camaraderie with a good time had by all. Plenty of new faces along with new friendships made.

Membership and Volunteer Opportunities

If you haven't signed up already, simply go to the Palm Beach group on myusna.com and follow the easy instructions. Or, reach out to your shipmates listed on the banner at the head of this article. The chapter encourages camaraderie and networking among our local alumni through events and gatherings. Our mission includes supporting our local BGO's, prospective mid-shipmen, Parents Club, welcoming all Navy Alumni, and providing a forum to promote



Palm Beach Army-Navy Watch party

activities that support the Naval Academy. The chapter is also making a call for anyone interested in serving on the Board, or in any capacity. This is a great opportunity to bring your ideas forward and help us accomplish our mission in the upcoming years.

Pensacola Chapter

Co-Pres: **Jose Perez '10**
Co-Pres: **Joey Walker '02**
e: usnaapensacola@gmail.com

Sec'y: **JD Kameen**
o: 480-494-8973; c: 443-904-6160; f: 833-727-0813
e: jkameen@loandepot.com

Website: Pensacola.usnachapters.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Kilton Kingsman '06**
e: kilton.kingsman@gmail.com

Southwest Florida Chapter

Pres: **Hank White '68**
e: hfwhitejr@aol.com

Sec'y: **Lukas Rebertus '12**
e: lwrebertus@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Dennis R. Neutze '65, JAGC USN (Ret.)
p: 305-705-4722; e: dennis.navy65@googlemail.com

Website: southwestflorida.usnachapters.net

Space Coast Chapter

Pres: **Geraldine Santos '83**
p: 626-376-6815; e: gwsantos83@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Vacant**

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard O'Sullivan '77, USN (Ret.)**
p: 407-687-6877; e: raaos@aol.com

Suncoast Chapter

Pres: **George Thompson '77**
e: thompsonsw77@gmail.com; p: 757-810-9532

Vice Pres: **Alois "Al" Burda '68**
e: alburda3@verizon.net

Second Vice Pres: **George "Bo" Hamrick '79**
e: bhamrick@financialpreservation.com

Treas: **Dick D'Anna '68**
e: dannari68@comcast.net

Sec'y: **Vacant**

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/usnaalumnifloridasuncoastchapter>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR (Ret.)**
e: sswift@1987.usna.com

Shipmates,

By the time you receive this, the "Dark Ages" will have started in Annapolis.....but not for us on Florida's Suncoast where we are enjoying the delightful Spring weather. The Gulf Coast beaches are so inviting, and the fishing is great! Oh, and did I mention incredible golf!

In football, it was a rough season for our boys in Blue and Gold, but we still had a few tailgates at local sports bars and celebrated our victories. Here's a photo of the gang of Alums and wives and friends who showed up for our Beat Army Tailgate at Gecko's in Sarasota.

Attendees included: **Debbi Harvey (Don Harvey '48)** and friend **Allison Sneed**; **Alex Morris '56**; **Gayle Thompson '61**; **Ron Barnett '61** and **Lynn Gregg**; **Nancy Bushnell (Vic Reiling '62)** and her son **Ed**; **Tom and Mary Baer '64**; **Al** and **Kate Burda '68**; **Dick D'Anna '68**; **Jerry** and **Jane Gallagher '69**; **Mario** and **Sue Summa '71**; **Jocko** and **Brenda Jastrab '71**; **Bob** and **Lynne Smith '73**; **Steve Horton '73**; **Doug** and **Susan Crowder '74**; **Steve Bartek '74**; **Craig** and **Darlene Harvey '76**; **Jim** and **Laura Blasko '77**; **Bo Hamrick '79**; **Joe** and **Neesh Hayden '80**; **Ed Landrith '92** and **Navy Vet Lou Sauppe**.

It was a tough loss. Army 17 Navy 11. Navy did not come alive until late in the game and lost its chance in the last minute with an incredible goal line stand by Army. We'll get 'em next year.

The Inaugural Patriots' Gala sponsored by the Military Heritage Museum in Punta Gorda on January 6 at the Sunseeker Resort in Port Charlotte was well attended by Florida Suncoast Chapter members. The Gala was held to honor



Suncoast Chapter: Army Navy 2023

CHAPTER NEWS

all who served. Local Congressman Greg Steube, himself a combat veteran addressed those assembled. Florida Suncoast Chapter members attending included USNA Distinguished Graduate **Larry Chambers '52** as well as new Chapter President **George Thompson '77**, Vice President **Al Burda '68**, **Gary Harrell '76**, and **Ray Santa-Cruz '95**. Midn 4/c **Brian O'Leary '2027** was present with his family, all veterans, including his father Dr. Dan O'Leary who was honored as the Museum's Wall of Warriors recipient. Truly a memorable event!



L to R Midn O'Leary, DGA Larry Chambers and Ray Santa-Cruz



L to R Gary Harrell, George Thompson and Al Burda

Watch for announcements for luncheons and mixers in the coming months.

Tampa Bay Chapter

Pres: **CDR Jane Lochner '84, USN (Ret.)**
e: jane.lochner@gmail.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Chris Heath '72, USN (Ret.)**
e: christopherheath.fl@gmail.com

MyUSNA: <https://myusna.com> Select Groups, Tampa Bay, and request to join this closed group

Website: <http://tampabay.usnachapters.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/USNA-Alumni-TampaSt-Petersburg/120095454740213?sk=wall>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Steve Swift '87, USNR (Ret.)**
e: sswift@1987.usna.com



We hope your new year is off to a great start. We've been rolling in Tampa Bay, and spring is our busiest season of activities. As you read this, we will have enjoyed a pro hockey game, socialized at Top Golf, and held our annual Candidate Information Picnic in March. We love pulling off fun, spirited activities!



NAVY FOOTBALL SUNK BY ARMY

It was a tough season, but you have to admire the grit and persistence of the Navy team. Despite the 17-11 loss, Navy fought until the end and almost pulled it out. We provided a strong showing of alumni support at joint watch parties in Tampa and St. Petersburg. Overall, the Mids posted a season record of 5-7. Wait 'til next year! GO NAVY!

THE LIGHTNING STRUCK!

In January we hosted other service academy alumni from USAFA and USMA at our annual NHL game. Over 50 combined alumni and guests turned out to see the Tampa Bay Lightning outskate the Anaheim Ducks 5-1. It was a rowdy, NHL-worthy outing, enjoyed by all!

SWIFT '87 AND QUILTY '89 GO FOR A SWIM

Steve Swift '87 and **Chris Quilty '89** maintain an extraordinary record. They are the only individuals to have participated in all fifteen iterations of the Tampa Bay Frogman Swim, a 3.4 mile swim across Tampa Bay to benefit the Navy SEAL Foundation. Started in 2010 by USNA grad **Dan O'Shea '91**, this year's swim raised over \$1 million for the families of fallen SEALs. The swimmers inspire donations, and other alumni participate as kayakers and other types of volunteers/supporters. Congratulations, guys!



MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly chapter meetings provide a forum for catching up on USNA news, as well as spirited planning, networking, and socializing. If you are new to the area or have been around a while and just haven't gotten to a meeting, this is a great way to get to see new and old friends. Come on out to Tate's Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria on the first WED of each month at 1800.

Participants in December and January included **Jane Lochner '84, Fr. Tim Corcoran '67, Jonathan Shannon '02, Paul Matthews '85, Warren Hahn '60, Chris Heath '72, Tom Draude '62, Steve Swift '87, Don Aiken '78, Chris Thompson '92, Brian Tsai '16, John Kamen '77, Don Patterson '74, Gary Polansky '69, Peter Damisch '75, Jim Kramer '74, Jon Kirsch '95, Tom Hartline '81, Miller Detrick '63, Bill Graham '72, Eric Kennington '88, Todd Barrett '00 and Austin Gullett '03.**

"Joining the table" were new members **Nathan Scott '02, Marshall Swor '88 and James Saylor '13.**

Welcome aboard, shipmates!

Watch for information to sign up for these future events:

Future Events

- Monthly Meetings on first Wednesday of each month (no sign-up needed)

- All-Academy Tampa Bay Rays game vs. the Washington Nationals - 29 June

- Army-Navy golf - TBD

Our social media links are above in our Chapter header. **Don't forget to enroll on MyUSNA.com**, our new all-service platform, and join the Tampa Bay Chapter - a Distinguished Chapter in 2020-2021-2022-2023.

Everything's great in the Sunshine State!

*Chris Heath '72
Chapter Secretary*

Georgia

Atlanta Chapter

Pres: **DJ Marzetta '94**
p: 404-996-7019; e: djmarzetta@gmail.com

Sec'y: **LCDR John "Wiz" Withers '79, USN (Ret.)**
e: JDWithers@1979.usna.com

Website: <http://www.usnaaaa.com>

BGO Area Coordinator (Atlanta/North Georgia):

Deborah Catrini
e: deborah.catrini@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Southern Georgia): **Ryan McDonel**
e: rmcdonel.usna@gmail.com

Atlanta is back, y'all!

In December an intrepid band of Atlanta Alumni faced off against those pesky "Hudson-ites" of the Atlanta West Point chapter. The annual Atlanta Metro Army-Navy Watch Party was held on 9 December at the Mutation Brewing Company in Sandy Springs. There were a combined 265 signups for the event. Unfortunately, the Black Knights trounced us again this year



Atlanta Chapter: Army-Navy Watch party

in attendance – winning streaks will do that. However, chapter president **Dante “DJ” Marzetta '94** reports that there was no lack of spirit, camaraderie and fun. (It would have been MORE fun had the game turned out differently, but I digress...)



Atlanta Army-Navy Watch Party



Atlanta Army-Navy Watch Party



Atlanta Army-Navy Watch Party

Besides our chapter president, attendees included Jan and **Jon Barton '66**, **Jim Murphy '73**, several Navy parents, and Deborah Catrini, one

of our Blue & Gold coordinators. I know there were others – I don't have a complete list of chapter members present. (“No excuse, Sir!”) I'm sure I'll have to go to come-around for this...

On 10 February we held our “Dark Ages” Party at the 57th Fighter Group Restaurant in Atlanta. I'll have a complete report on that in our next issue.

One question I often get is “How can I get notified of upcoming Atlanta Chapter events?” The best way is to make sure you're on our email list. First, log into your profile on USNA.com and make sure your email address is current. Our email list comes directly from the Alumni Assn. database. As a backup, you can also email me, and I can verify your profile is current and that we have your correct email address on file.

Another way to keep up is by visiting the chapter website at <https://atlanta.usnachapters.net/>. Our webmaster works tirelessly to keep the site up to date. We also post on the chapter's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/USNAAtlanta>.

Atlanta chapter events are open to alumni in the Atlanta metro area. All alumni, whether they live in Atlanta or just passing through, are welcome to attend as a guest. We always encourage membership, but please don't let that deter you from participating in a future meeting. The door is always open!

Wiz Withers '79



Northwest Chapter: Army-Navy celebration

Hawaii

Hawaii Chapter

Pres: **Ted Peck '88**
p: 808-371-7514; e: ted.peck@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Keno Knieriem '06**
e: keno@honokea.com

Sec'y: **Eric Kimura '76**
e: kimurayoshihiro9@gmail.com

Comms: **Brian C. Smith '05**
e: brian.conley.smith@gmail.com

Treas: **Tom Marzec '87**
e: tamarzec@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
CDR Jason Afong '06, USN
e: Jason.afong@bgo.usna.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/USNAAA.Honolulu>; <https://www.facebook.com/NavalAcademyHawaii/>

Idaho

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Todd Severance '92, USN (Ret.)**
p: 208-620-9436; e: tjseverance1992@gmail.com

Northwest Chapter

Pres: **Brad Little '76**
p: 619-459-6352
e: BLittle1052@outlook.com

Treas: **William Crumpler '65**
p: 509-447-7956

VA Coord: **John Lasher '69**
p: 208-664-6753

Activities Coord: **Peter Optekar '63**
p: 208-762-4571

Greetings Shipmates, Classmates, Significant Others, and further scalawags,

The Northwest Chapter kicked off the new year with a grand celebration of the Army Navy at the Hayden Lake Country Club (picture below), doing our best to substitute good camaraderie for a lousy score. Events kicked off with **Henry Netzer '74**, North Region Chair of the USS IDAHO (SSN-799) Commissioning Committee, with an update on the Commissioning of IDAHO and date (still undetermined) for the festivities. Henry was followed by Brett Bower representing the VA in the Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington. Brett provided

CHAPTER NEWS

a quick review of activities at the VA and an overview of assistance programs available in the area. Finally, we held the election of Officers for 2024. The results are in: **Brad Little '76**, President, 619-459-6352; **William Crumpler '65**, Treasurer, 509-447-7956; **John Lasher '69**, VA Coordinator, 208-664-6753; **Peter Optekar '63**, Activities Coordinator, 208-762-4571.

Speaking of activities, make sure you are on our distro by contacting one of the above. Bi-weekly Bowling, Monthly Ski Outings, Bi-monthly Happy Hours, Lake Days and Float days when the weather warms up, are all on the agenda.

With all that said and done, the game, Ughhhh....

Finally, on behalf of the USS IDAHO Commissioning Committee let me offer that the Commissioning will be broadcast at watch parties throughout Idaho, including the Hayden Lake Country Club. Reach out if you would like join us.

Anchors Away!!!

Southern Idaho Chapter

Pres: **Paul Campbell '98**
e: Paul.Campbell@1998.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Schellhaas '68**
e: rbschellhaas@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Rufus Taylor '66**
e: tincansailor980@gmail.com

Treas: **Ted Nunamaker '96**
e: tjnunamaker@gmail.com

Idaho Parents' Club President: **Nicola McIntosh (Luke '24)**
e: idusnaparents@hotmail.com

SIC members joined with the USMA AOG for our annual Army-Navy game watch party. A large contingent of both USNA alumni and USMA AOG members was present, accompanied by lots of cheering and pushups, but not many for Navy. "Singing First" makes the "Dark Ages" even darker. So close to the goal line but no cigar. Wait 'til next year! Along with spouses, family, parents and friends, and alumni, SIC attendees included **Steve Berg '66**, **Rufus Taylor '66**, **Del Giffin '67**, **Dennis Hanrahan '68**, **Tom Neville '68**, **Rick Schellhaas '68**, **Tom Simmonds '73**, **Ken Vanderhorst '79**, **Rich Waddel '80**, **Ed Brzezinski '85**, **Roy Ledesma '87**, **Van States '91**, **Todd Severance '92**, **Chris Horak '94**, **Dave Overcash '95**, **Paul Campbell '98**, **Andrea Hovey '03**, **Steve Rainy '09** and **Cody Rome '12**. Many thanks to the Warhawk Aviation Museum in Nampa, Idaho for the venue. Food and beverage were graciously provided by the 13th Street Pub & Grill, Holy Smokes BBQ & Catering and Bear Island Brewery. Thanks to all!

The 24th annual All Service Academy Ball took place on 30 December at the Riverside Hotel in Garden City, Idaho. Thanks to Roy Ledesma '87 who served as a great master of ceremonies. There was an excellent pre-dinner program, a silent auction, and recognition of

those who have gone before us along with the appropriate solemnity. Our keynote speaker was VADM John Fuller '87, Naval Inspector General. Thanks to Nicola McIntosh, USNA Parents' Club president, for her work in helping to organize the event. Alumni and chapter members present with their Spouses/SO's included **Mike Coyle '65**, **Bill Preivity '65**, **Tom Neville '68**, **Dennis Hanrahan '68**, **Rick Schellhaas '68**, **Roy Ledesma '87**, **Jim Matheson '87**, **Mike Bisbee '96** and **Cody Rome '12**.



VADM Fuller '87, Roy Ledesma '87, Jim Matheson '87 and Idaho Midshipmen.

Midshipmen present included **Lucas Gabrieli '24**, **Cecelia Wheeler '24**, **Luke McIntosh '24**, **Nicholas Schiedler '25**, **Sam Kerley '26** and **Kate LeBaron '27**.



'68 classmates with VADM Fuller '87: Tom Neville, Dennis Hanrahan and Rick Schellhaas.



Chicago Chapter alums at the Great Lakes USO



'87 classmates and old tales being retold by Roy Ledesma, VADM Fuller, and Jim Matheson.

The Southern Idaho Chapter (SIC) meets monthly. Alumni and their spouses/SOs living in or visiting the Boise area are invited to join us. If you would like information about SIC activities, contact **Rufus Taylor '66** at <tincansailor980@gmail.com>.

Illinois

Chicago Chapter

Pres: **Eric Sucharski '91**
e: eric@sucharskilaw.com

Vice Pres: **Michael Cortesio '85**
e: mjcortesio@comcast.net

Sec'y: **John Killacky '93**
e: j4killacky@comcast.net

Treas: **Michelle Lee '16**
e: michelle.lee@bgo.usna.com

Past Pres: **Fred Weber '75**
e: Fred.weber@2comm.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Northern IL)
LCDR Drew Thomas '04 USNR
e: drew.thomas@bgo.usna.com

This past Fall, the Chicago chapter participated in an All Academies networking event at the newly renovated USO on the Great Lakes Naval base in North Chicago. More than 20 Annapolis alumni joined graduates from the other service academies to socialize and receive a brief from the Commanding Officer of the Recruit Training Command (RTC) on how the Navy is training the Navy's newest recruits. The command holds 52 graduations every Thursday of the year.

The chapter was well represented at the Service Academy Networking Group meeting in November. The meeting was hosted by **John Killacky '93**, **Fred Weber '75**, **Gary Rau '76**, **Gerry Pukach '88** and **Mark Metzger '89** joined colleagues from USMA and USAFA to hear a presentation on the Entrepreneurial Operating System (EOS). This group meets several times a year for networking and sharing of business opportunities. Be on the look out for the next meeting.



Chicagoland Class of 2016 at the Army- Navy watch part

Finally, the annual Army-Navy watch party with both fan bases was held at Kincade's Bar and Grill in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Chicago. Once again, those in attendance were treated to an exciting game. **The Class of 2016**

had the most attendees with **Mitch Evans**, **Michelle Lee**, and **Mike Dennison** cheering on the Blue and Gold. Others that made it out to watch the game included **Fred Weber '75**, **Bill Frost '77**, **Jim Wilson '86**, **Tom Coyne '87**, **John Sprenger '88**, **Nick Etten '89**, and plenty of families of current Chicagoland midshipmen.

Indiana

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Drew Thomas '04, USNR**
p: 317-682-8441; e: drew.thomas@bgo.usna.com

Indianapolis Chapter

CDR Lynn Thomas '83, USN
h: 317-329-1773; e: lynntw@aol.com

Michiana Chapter

Pres: **Maj Michael Rose '11, USMC**
61705 Greentree Dr., South Bend, IN 46614
c: 574-323-3779; e: mgcrose13@gmail.com

Vice Pres/Sec'y: **CDR John "Chris" Haizlip '72, USN (Ret.)**
15246 Longford Dr., Granger, IN 46530
p: 574-273-2939; e: CHaizlip@aol.com

Treas: **CAPT John Strauss '69, USN (Ret.)**
e: ejstrauss3373@att.net

Greetings from the wintry Midwest. Not a lot to report this issue...everybody seems to be busy shoveling snow from their front

walks...and trying to stay warm during the frigid below zero temps...brrrr! Even the BBQ grills are angry! (See the photo on the next page.)



One mad BBQ grill

KANSAS

WICHITA CHAPTER

Welcome Aboard Wichita Chapter!

One of the newest USNAAA chapters received its charter in early November 2023. This effort has been spearheaded by the local Blue and Gold Officer Area Coordinator, Donald Peacock '93.

The first Chapter Officers are:

President - Don Beverlin '78

VP - Matt Treaster '88

Secretary - Hunt Parker '63

Treasurer - Angel Ortiz '98

Our first activity was an Army-Navy watch party at Deano's Grill and Tapworks in Wichita, KS. There were 15 alumni and family members. We even had two Zoomies show up to cheer for Navy.

The Board of Directors has established our first official meeting on 19 February...where we will be discussing voting on bylaws, the possibility of annual dues and the upcoming election for a Board of Directors.

It is very appropriate, and long past due, to have a Wichita Chapter. We are thankful for all the USNA Alumni members that helped us finally get started.

Since the '30s Wichita manufactures have produced thousands of trainers and transports for the Navy:

- * Stearman/Boeing PT-17 (Kaydet) "Yellow Peril"
- * Beech/Raytheon model 18 series C-45/SNB/RC45 Twin Beech
- * AT-11 bombing trainer
- * T-34C Mentor
- * T-6A Texan II.

We look forward to a strong and enduring relationship with *Shipmate* and the Naval Academy Alumni Association!



Wichita Alum and Family enjoying the Army-Navy watch party at Deano's



Don Peacock '93 and USAFA co-workers cheering Navy on to victory

CHAPTER NEWS



And a small crowd gathered for our annual Army-Navy event at the new Clover Hotel (the former Waterford Estate Lodge). (L-R): LtCol Kent Laudeman, USA (Ret.), Bill Mountford '83, Deb & Pat Sloan '75, Joan & Chris Haizlip '72, and Mike Anderson, USN Team RWB.

Iowa

See Minnesota

Send *Shipmate* input to: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Ted Olt III '85**
p: 563-355-1709; e: tolt@l-wlaw.com

Kansas

Wichita Chapter

Pres: **Don Beverlin '78**
p: 316-721-7947; e: wuba78@att.net

Vice Pres: **Matt Treaster '88**
p: 316-706-8594; e: matt.treaster@usdoj.gov

Sec'y: **Alson (Hunt) Parker '63**
p: 316-634-3844; e: hunt@theaerogroup.com

Treasurer: **Angel Ortiz '98**
p: 785-643-6698; e: ort12@hotmail.com

Kentucky

Louisville/Southern Indiana Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Gregory Reinhardt '79, USNR (Ret.)**
712 Talon Pl., Louisville, KY 40223
p: 502-244-7707; e: greinhardt@1979.usna.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
CAPT Gregory Reinhardt '79, USN (Ret.)
p: 502-244-7707; e: greinhardt@1979.usna.com

Louisiana

Louisiana Chapter

Pres: **Garrett Miller '95**
p: 985-590-2425; e: torrens.miller@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Bob Ferrante '90**
p: 985-237-2091; e: mbrlj5@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Wayne Morgan '98**
e: wayne.morgan@1998.usna.com

Treas: **Drew Dodenhoff '70**
e: drewdode@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.USNALouisiana.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Jessica Thornhill '01**
e: jessica.mp.thornhill@gmail.com



Greater Southern Maryland Chapter Eggs/Legs breakfast: Enjoying a great breakfast at the Olde Town Café in Leonardtown, MD.



Greater Southern Maryland Chapter Eggs/Legs breakfast: Enjoying a great breakfast at the Olde Town Café in Leonardtown, MD.

Maine

Maine Chapter

Pres: **LT Jen Bohr Tyll '01, USNR**
e: jenbohrtyll@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **LT Jen Bohr Tyll '01, USNR**
p: 207-829-8159; e: jenbohrtyll@gmail.com

Maryland

Annapolis Chapter

Pres: **Michael Rapp '91**
e: michaelrapp999@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **James McNeal '86**
e: jamesm@ispards.com

Sec'y-*Shipmate* Contact: **Liesel (Danjczek) Schopler '99**
e: lieseldanjczek@hotmail.com

Treas: **Chuck Dixon '79**
e: CBDixon@firstcommand.com

Membership: **James McNeal '86**
e: jamesm@ispards.com

Website: <http://annapolis.usn chapters.net>

Join the Chapter: https://www.signupnow.events/USNAAlumniChapter_Annapolis/

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1118214745191/> (or search for: Naval Academy Alumni Annapolis Chapter)

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Charles Mello**
e: Charlesmello@gmail.com

Baltimore Chapter

Pres: **Jason Hardebeck '87**
p: 443-269-1599; e: jhardebeck@whoglue.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR Charles Mello**
e: Charlesmello@gmail.com

Join the Chapter: https://www.signupnow.events/USNAAlumniChapter_Annapolis/

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1118214745191/> (or search for: Naval Academy Alumni Annapolis Chapter)

Greater Southern Maryland Chapter

Pres: **Micheal W. Thumm '75**
e: thummer75@md.metrocast.net

Sec'y: **Katie Ellefson '13**
p: 661-992-9190; e: katieellefson13@gmail.com

Corr Sec'y: **Michael Dougherty '73**
p: 240-925-7518; e: doughertymj8@aol.com

Website: <http://www.navalumni.org>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Kevin Schaaff**
e: Kevin.Schaaff@bgo.usna.com

Events

Eggs & Legs breakfast held on 8 Dec at the Olde Towne Café in Leonardtown. Great attendance! Colors presented by the Great Mills HS JROTC unit.

Chapter elections held in Jan, results to be presented at the Dark Ages dinner on 2 Feb.

Coming Events:

21 Mar 2024: Happy hour, Flight Deck Lounge NAS Pax River

9 Apr 2024: Spring Social and Chapter meeting at the Brudergarten in Leonardtown

20 Jun 2024: Happy Hour, Flight Deck Lounge (NAS Pax River)

Please check your e-mail and the GSMC website (www.navalumni.org)

REGISTER OF ALUMNI 2024

Thank you for responding to our trusted partner PCI's,
post cards to update your contact information.
Check out the link for information.

Shop - Register of Alumni <https://www.usna.com/register-of-alumni?>

Massachusetts

Boston Chapter

Pres: **James Kras '69**
141 Dorchester Ave., Unit 406, South Boston, MA 02127-1836
p: 617-645-1032; e: jameskras@comcast.net

Shipmate contact: **CAPT Pete Seibert '65**
p: 781-235-5909; e: pkseibert@comcast.net

Website: <http://boston.usnachapters.com>

BGO Area Coordinator (Boston and SE Mass): **John Rinkacs**
e: rinkacs@comcast.net

BGO Area Coordinator (N Shore and Central Mass):
CDR David Grim
e: david.grim@1982.usna.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Western Mass): **Ken Walton**
e: ken.walton@bgo.usna.com

It took Robert Kraft, owner of the New England Patriots and Gillette Stadium, over ten years to convince the Navy and Army academies to hold the fabled Army-Navy football game at Gillette Stadium outside of Boston. But what a show it was. The game was sold out with ticket demand greater than that of Taylor Swift.

The festivities began on Friday. Beginning at 0800 there was a Tug of War followed by a Parade, a Pep Rally and a Relay Race. These activities concluded with a gala dinner at the Hynes Convention Center preceded by a battle of the pipe bands, breathless cheerleader gymnastic performances and both Army and Navy Band performances.



Cheerleading at Gala



L to R: White, Haines and Siedsma at gala



Michigan Chapter: The Army/Navy viewing party hosted at the Detroit Yacht Club.



L to R: Amy, Casey and Abby Garwood at gala

Yours truly had the pleasure of dining with Amy Garwood, Director of Alumni Travel, her husband **Casey Garwood '93** and their daughter, Abby. Also present at the dinner was **Bill Malloy '80**, former president of the Boston Chapter and **CDR Michael J. Siedsma '05**, CO of the USS MASSACHUSETTS (SSN 798) being built at Newport News to be commissioned in Boston next year. More on that later. He was accompanied by his Weaps, **LCDR Andrew C. Haines '12** and his PAO **LT Michaela S. White '19**.

On game day, there were three tailgates, which took place in Patriot Place next to the stadium. There was an alumni Tailgate at Bar Louie and another Navy Tailgate for the President's Circle at the Cross Pavilion.

The third was a joint Army-Navy Tailgate and Game Watch sponsored by Army at the Helix for ticketholders and non-ticket holders who wanted to be at the stadium to be part of the excitement and camaraderie. This tailgate, which included many Navy attendees including Chapter President **Jim Kras '69**, attracted over 500 attendees of which 220 were non-ticket holders. After the game Army admitted over 300 additional non-ticketed people supplying a warm place to wait out the notoriously slow exit of Gillette Stadium.

After cruising a couple of the tailgates, I had the good fortune of attending a suite sponsored by the New England Center and Home for Veterans in Boston whose President and CEO is **CAPT Andy McCawley '80**. Other attendees included Andy's son, Charles, an Army Major and West Point graduate (the group was

non-denominational), classmate **John Thompson '80**, and **Rick Doran '81**, Andy's VP of Government Relations at the Center as well as Jim Matheson and **Ed Schofield '87** and Ed's wife, Jan, and **Ben Langis '90**.

I was accompanied by my lovely wife of twenty-nine years, Midge, plus classmates **Steve Chubb '65** and his charming wife, Patricia, and **Brian Doherty '65**. We were also joined by Professor Qamar-ul Huda, PhD, Michael E. Paul Distinguished Visiting Professor, International Affairs at USNA, a chair established by Steve.

The suite afforded us a perfect view of the game at the thirty yard line while mixing with Army and Navy supporters alike and enjoying food and drink.

Michigan

Michigan Chapter

Pres: **Maj Joe Zane '07, USMCR**
e: joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Shawn Hoch '08**
e: shawn.hoch@2008.usna.com

Website: <http://detroit.usnachapters.net>

Communications Sec'y: **Chris Bernard '88**
e: gcb117@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (Eastern):
CAPT Michael Johnson '79, USNR
e: mj007mj@hotmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (West & Upper):
Col Benjamin Richmond '93, USMCR
e: brichmond97@earthlink.net

Since our last article, two events of note took place. First, we had a great time at the Army/Navy viewing party jointly hosted by the Michigan Chapter and the West Point Society of Michigan! While the final score didn't turn out as we would have liked, the game was hard-fought and we had a great time. With almost 100 people in attendance, it was our most-attended event in recent memory. Second, we had a luncheon on January 16th at Ford's Garage in Dearborn. While the winter weather almost threatened our plans again, we had 8 alumni brave the cold, and we had a great time catching up.

CHAPTER NEWS



January Luncheon at Ford's Garage in Dearborn.

By the time you read this, we should have met up for a 100th Night celebration on February 10th. There should be a March luncheon on March 12th. Keep your eye out on your e-mail for details. If you are reading this and want to join but haven't seen that e-mail, feel free to reach out to me personally at joseph.zane.2007@gmail.com. As always, keep your eye out on MyUSNA and your e-mail for the latest on events and updates.

Thank you for reading, and until next time: Beat Army!

Joe Zane '07
Chapter President

Minnesota

Upper Midwest Chapter

Pres: **Brian E. Ries '93**

c: 858-335-7921

e: ries.briane@gmail.com

Shipmate Contact: **Position Open**

Website: myUSNA.com Chapter Group -
<https://myusna.com/topics/9586/home>

Facebook: www.fb.com/USNAAUpperMidwest

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Mark J. Salmen '73, USN (Ret.)**

NAIP Area Coordinator—Minnesota

15230 Afton Hills Dr. South; Afton, MN 55001-9670

p: 651-436-5842; c: 651-271-6690

e: mark.salmen@1973.usna.com; e: mjsalmen@aol.com

Chapter News:

Brian Ries '93, has been appointed as Interim Chapter President until such time that an Annual Meeting can be organized (Target: Fall 2024) and nominations/voting for board members can be held. Currently, board positions for the three Vice Presidents (Communications, Events, and Membership) are open. If you would like to support our chapter in any of these areas pro tempore, please contact Brian at: ries.briane@gmail.com.

Our online hub for the Chapter (information, events, memberships, etc.) is currently transitioning to the Chapter Group at myUSNA.com. If you have not activated your account or joined the group, please visit myUSNA.com. We are currently in the process of migrating Member status and enabling dues payment. Visit the Events section for current/upcoming events. Please have patience as we make this transition.

We look forward to a new day for the chapter and great things to come. Go Navy! Beat Army!



Las Vegas Chapter:

Mississippi

BGO Area Coordinator: **David Price '78**
e: dep-78@sbcglobal.net

South Mississippi Chapter

Pres: **CDR E. Spencer Garrett IV '88, USNR**

P.O. Box 1792, Gautier, MS 39553

p: 228-497-5050; e: esgarrett44@aol.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Harry J. Rucker '73, USN (Ret.)**

e: navynomad50@caldeone.net

Missouri

Greater Kansas City Metro Chapter

Pres: **Bob Culler '74**

p: 913-488-6319; e: bculler@sbcglobal.net

Vice Pres: **Victor Hurlbert '10**

p: 816-665-1647; e: victorh@yahoo.com

Treas: **Eric Carlson '74**

p: 913-481-5436; e: j.eric.carlson@gmail.com

Website: <http://KansasCity.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Lee Gilgour '01**

e: Gilgour42@gmail.com

St. Louis Chapter

Pres: **Lowell Crow '84**

p: 309-509-0279

lowelldcrow@gmail.com

Website: <https://stlusna.com>

Shipmate contact: **John Winkler '85**

p: 314-497-4917; e: jkwinkler@earthlink.net

BGO Area Coordinator:

CAPT Kent Higginbotham '76, USN (Ret.)

e: kenth@hbistl.com

Montana

BGO Area Coordinator: **Andy Metroka**

e: METROKA@MT.NET

Nebraska

BGO Area Coordinator: **Eric Taylor**

e: etaylor@1994.usna.com

Omaha Chapter

Pres: **Jeremiah Binkley '00**

e: jeremiah.binkley@yahoo.com

Website: <http://omaha.usnachapters.net/>

Nevada

BGO Area Coordinator: **Joe Holland '03**
e: joe.holland03@gmail.com

Las Vegas Chapter

Pres: **Corwin Karaffa '77**

e: cjkaraffa@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Glenn Truitt '97**

e: glenn@idealbusinsspartners.com

Website: <http://southernnevada.usnachapters.com/>

The **Las Vegas** Chapter reprised our hosting role for the Army-Navy Game Party at the MacKenzie River Pizza, Grill & Pub at City National Arena in Henderson on 9 December and despite another last second heartbreak, we again broke our attendance record, with plenty of rowdy Army fans, another amazing buffet from our hosts, and our now-famous chapter spouses' homemade cookie lineup.

On Thursday, 18 April 2024, the Las Vegas Aviators, the pride of Minor League Baseball, will be hosting the Chapter for our THRID annual Service Academy Night, and tickets to sit with the group can be purchased here (<https://fevo.me/2024usna>) \$55 per person (includes game tickets, food and a non-alcoholic beverage). This event is an annual favorite, and we have no plans to stop! As in past years, we are planning to open the tickets to USMA and USAFA alumni chapters at a later date but we would love to have more NAVY folks than anyone else! We'd love to see you, even if it's your first time out!



We are always planning smaller, local events, as well, so please stay tuned to your favorite source of Chapter news! As always, the Chapter puts out all of its news and events on our Facebook page - so if you're not a member yet, come find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/851758039084714>. The latest pictures, event invitations, and all the good gouge can be found! GO NAVY! VIVA LAS VEGAS!



New Mexico Chapter: Eighteen USNA New Mexico alums gather for the 2023 Army/Navy football game in Albuquerque



New Mexico Chapter: 2023 NM Joint Service Academy Reception (JSAR)

New Jersey

Pres: **Patrick Hurley '87**
e: patrick.hurley@1987.usna.com

BGO Area Coordinator (North NJ): **Marcy Abbate**
e: Abbate.Marcy.M@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator (South NJ): **Martha Christinziano**
e: Christinziano.area114@gmail.com

Website: www.usnanj.org

New Mexico

New Mexico Chapter

Pres: **John Scott Kraus '73**
2304 Madre Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112
h: 505-296-7409; c: 505-366-7457
e: skraus@aquilagroup.com; or jkraus2304@aol.com

Sec'y: **Joseph McGuire '68**
p: 505-857-9679; e: sunnymack@msn.com

Vice Pres: **Dr. Doug Meints '77**
p: 505-888-6800; e: dmeintschiro@gmail.com

NM Parents' Club Pres: **Sheila Chapman**
p: 505-419-2633; e: usna.nm.parents@gmail.com

Website: <http://newmexico.usnachapters.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Swingle**
e: dswingle@newmexico.com

The much-anticipated Army/Navy football contest kicked off on 9 December 2023, the highlight of the New Mexico's Chapter's social calendar. The Chapter's alumni and guests

gathered in a TV room dedicated to the Army/Navy game at the Craft Republic in Albuquerque. Attending were: **Leo Stockham '56**; **Brink Trammell '57**; Dottie & **G.J. (Hoppy) Hopkins '59**; Bonnie & **Mike Blackledge '63**; **Olen Thompson '63**; **Kip Paskewich '65**; **Joe McGuire '68**; **Paul Wilson '68**; **Asby Albright '71 Assoc.**; **Lynden (Tolly) Toliver '71**; **Ed Johnson '73**; **Scott Kraus '73**; **Lauren & Max Legg '74**; **Jay Carrizales '75**; **Doug Meints '77**; **Bonnie & Mikey Weinstein (USAFA '77)**; **Pamela & Tom Kennedy '82**; **Deborah & Mark Schaefer '83**; **Mark Hawkins '85** with guests **Nathan & Rosa Linda Goldfein**; **Bill & Anne Hammond '86**; **Quincy Fleming '91** & husband **Chris Walton** with son **Chris** and mother; **Shelly Price '96**; **Christine Hoaglund '97**; **Elsie Begay & Jacey Carl** - family of **Courtney Lapahie '17**; and '26 Parents **Matt & Roberta Fötter**. Visiting alums included **Stephen Barnes '74** from Oklahoma City and **Adam Hesch '08** from Washington, D.C. The Chapter's annual meeting was held by President Scott Kraus during the halftime break.

STAY CONNECTED

Find a Chapter.
usna.com/FindAChapter



Four USNA Alumnae connect at Army/Navy

On 30 December, the annual Joint Service Academy Reception (JSAR) was held in Albuquerque for all NM service academy students and their families. The event was organized by the President of the USNA Parents Club Ms. Sheila Chapman, assisted by Ms. Paige Lewis. Twenty service academy members from Annapolis MD, West Point NY, Colorado Springs CO, and New London CT, with most in their dress uniforms, attended. One student from each service gave a short talk on their experiences at their school and their future



2023 JSAR Keynote Speaker
CAPT Keith "Casey" Jones '60 USN (Ret.)

career plans. The keynote speaker, **CAPT Keith (Casey) Jones USN '60 (Ret.)**, congratulated the midshipmen and cadets on selecting a career of service to the country and congratulated their parents, as well, for imbuing their sons and daughters with the desire to serve. Using his experience,

he pointed out to the midshipmen and cadets that during their time in service, they could well be called upon to serve in combat.

New York

New York Capital District Chapter

Pres: **David Mendez '11**
e: david.mendez-sankrith@2011.usna.com

Sec'y: **Gordon Lattey**
40 First St., Troy, NY 12180
p: 518-274-4989; e: uss Slater@aol.com

Website: <http://capitaldistrictny.usnachapters.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jessica Barr**
e: jessiebarr.usna99bgo@yahoo.com

Central New York Chapter

Pres: **Steve Erb '68**
e: steveerb@windstream.net

Sec'y/Treas: **Bob Fegan Jr. '64**
e: bobfegan64@gmail.com

Website: CentralNY.usnachapters.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Ravener**
e: tom.ravener@gmail.com

A very few alumni, and Navy family and friends were able to get-together at the Brae Loch Inn

CHAPTER NEWS

in Cazenovia for the Army-Navy game. Alumni attending were **Rob Sawyer '84**, **Bob Fegan '64** and his wife Marilyn, and **Howard Gutzman '75** and his wife Mary. Also attending was Andy Hardman, a retired Navy captain and aviator. The result of the game was enjoyed by a few Army fans in attendance.

Alumni, family and friends are encouraged to attend the weekly Wednesday lunch at 1200 at Clear Path for Veterans in Chittenango. You can call (315-687-3300) to let them know if you will be attending a lunch but calling is not necessary...just show up.

Alumni, family, friends, USNA parents, and others with an interest in the Naval Academy are welcome to join the Chapter at all Chapter functions. Call (315-663-7490) or e-mail Bob Fegan to let us know if you plan to attend a function.

Future Chapter activities will be addressed by email as they are planned.

The Chapter has instituted the payment of a Life Membership Fee as an option to Annual Dues. As the information was provided through the USNA Alumni Association, there a quite a few Alumni in the CNY area who may not have received the information so it is again being provided herewith. With the new year, annual dues of \$20 are now being accepted.

The Central New York Chapter leadership discussed offering Life Membership and with inputs from a few Alumni, the following table shows what was decided:

Year Groups	Life Membership Fee
1941-1950	\$0
1951-1960	\$50
1961-1970	\$75
1971-1980	\$100
1981-1990	\$125
1991-2000	\$150
2001-2010	\$175
2011-2020	\$200
2021-x	\$200

If 40% of the Alumni in the Central New York area opt for Life Membership and with over \$740 currently in the Chapter's non-profit checking account with M&T, the Chapter would have over \$10,000 which is more than enough to support the Chapter's financial commitments through 2030.

Alumni who have paid Dues for the Chapter year 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 and for subsequent years may apply those Dues to their Life Membership Fee. Also those Alumni who have made Donations to the Chapter may apply all or part of the Donation to their Life Membership Fee. Each Alumni to whom the above applies should contact Bob Fegan (bobfegan64@gmail.com) (315-663-7490) and let him know what to do or to check what your dues status may be.

For those Alumni who choose not to pay the Life Membership Fee, the annual Chapter membership fee of \$20 will be continued.

Payment of dues (Life Membership or Annual) can be made in cash or check at a



Cape Fear Chapter: Army-Navy game watch party

Chapter function or by mailing a check payable to "CNY Chapter of USNA Alumni" to Bob Fegan, 1570 US Route 20, Cazenovia, NY 13035-9202. Please provide a note to indicate your USNA AA status (Life Member, Annual or Not a member) and your email address to ensure that the Chapter's database is complete and up-to-date.

Metro New York Chapter (NAANY)

Pres: **Chris Whitley '08**
e: chris.d.whitley@gmail.com
HotLine: 1-800-234-USNA (8732)

Website: <http://www.NAANY.org>
BGO Area Coordinator: **Gardner Jackson**
e: ghjackson86@gmail.com

Western New York Chapter

Pres: **Dan Sullivan '95**
p: 585-410-1941; e: daniel.sullivan@savox.com

Vice Pres: **Pete Owen '86**
p: 949-701-2733; e: pfowen0302@gmail.com
Website: <http://westernny.usnachapters.net/>

BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Peters '73**
e: douglaspeters@gmail.com

North Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Col Kevin Hart '75, USMC (Ret.)**
p: 847-910-4502; e: kevinphart1@gmail.com

Cape Fear Chapter

Pres: **Ray Decker '72**
p: 703-939-0202; e: dax24@icloud.com

Vice Pres: **Paul Normand '74**
e: paulnormand@mac.com

Sec'y: **Steve Yandle '75**
e: sryusna75@gmail.com

Treas: **Rick Haley '72**
e: capefearthreasurer@outlook.com

Website: myUSNA.com/topics/9490

With spirits high, the Cape Fear Chapter rallied at Bill's Brewing Company in Wilmington for the Army-Navy Game watch party. Sadly, the tide was out, and Navy ran aground again. Present for the game: **Alan Frelich '61, Alan Smith '64, Tracy and Bob Lasseter '65, Dave Scheu '67, Jane and Michael Brown '70, Paul Smith '71, Muffy Boylan and Ray Decker**

'72, Gregg Hamelin '72, Michelle and Rick Haley '72, Hugh McWilliams '72, Tom Wolfe '72, Gail and Paul Normand '74, Susan and Bart Whitman '74, Steve Yandle '75, Lynn and Gary Beaver '77, Steve Stuck '88, Ann and Chuck Berger '90, Misty and Jim Slight '93, Anne Leanos '98, Alex Leanos '99, and Lisa Purdom, mom of Billy '17. Guests included parents Donna and Paul Tustin, Kathy and RADM Ron Henderson, USN (Ret.) Harvard '76.

The Cape Fear Chapter tried to step off smartly with its 9 Jan 24 meeting, but extreme weather negated the best plans. Updates by our guest speakers from the Raleigh Chapter, **Gray Tompson '07** (President SSN777 Club) and **Chris Perrien '74** (Lead for the proposed NC Submarine Museum) will be rescheduled for a later date.



Chapter logo

On 13 Feb, the Chapter held its annual business meeting with a review of all Chapter activities. Several changes to our by-laws and policies were approved as well as a Chapter logo. With current Chapter membership hovering around 75 members, **Paul Normand '74**, VP, will be leading the effort to add 25 more alum to the rolls over the next two years. Based on his past successful effort, Paul will undoubtedly surpass the 100-member stretch goal! Our secretary, **Steve Yandle '75**, has smoothly migrated our website to MyUSNA and continues to effectively direct all Chapter communiques. **Rick Haley '72**, Treasurer, has expertly managed the Chapter's war chest growth and expenses. **Bill Caiazza '66** and **John Casey '78** will again lead the Chapter's Summer STEM effort. With a target



Charlotte Chapter

of awarding 2 merit-based scholarships this year, Bill and John are up to the task. Full speed ahead.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: The 5th Annual Dark Ages Dinner will be held on 09 March in the ballroom at the Cape Fear Country Club. Another great turnout is expected for a fun night of camaraderie and fellowship. Come join shipmates to “celebrate” memories of that damp wintry period after Christmas leave!

The Chapter’s 2024 Calendar of Events is posted on our website: MyUSNA.com/topics/9490. Go Navy!

Charlotte Chapter

Pres: **Christopher “Nix” M. Nickels ‘91**
e: CHRISNIX@AOL.COM

Email: UsnaaaCharlotte@gmail.com

Facebook Page: <http://facebook.com/usna-alumni-association-charlotte-251965968210794/>

Website: Charlotte.usnachapters.net

LinkedIn Group: <http://linkedin.com/groups/8344487>

Event Recap: 9 Dec 2023 Army vs Navy Football. Hosted 3rd Annual Army Navy watch party at Blackfinn Ameripub in Ballantyne to cheer on Navy! Chapter also collected toys for Marine Corps Toys for Tots! We filled one big box. Great time had by all and thanks to everyone who supported Toys for Tots! See pictures nearby.



Eastern North Carolina Chapter

Pres: **Rob Skrotsky ‘67**
P.O. Box 847, New Bern, NC 28563
h: 252-514-0299; e: robert.skrotsky@1967.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Kunkel ‘67**
p: 910-347-6251; e: rkunkel@ec.rr.com

Sec’y: **Tim Marvin ‘59**
P.O. Box 731, Kure Beach, NC 28449-0731
e: tmarvin738@charter.net

Treas: **Randy Bogle ‘68**
4308 Periwinkle Pl., New Bern, NC 28562
p: 252-631-3109; e: rbogle1968@gmail.com

Website: <http://myusna.com/topics/9508>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14196247/>

December Meeting

The chapter gathered on Saturday, 9 December at the Marina on board MCAS New River. **Bob Dupuis ‘79**, welcomed alumni, families and guests for the 2023 Army-Navy Football game, being broadcast from Gillette Field in Foxboro, Massachusetts. Bob led everybody in a moment of silence for those in harm’s way, grieving or suffering. Twenty-two members, guests and ten children enjoyed the facilities and cheered NAVY on.

At half time Bog recognized the oldest and the youngest alumni present. The oldest was **Angelo Inglisa ‘57**, Major USMC (Ret.). The youngest was Major **Josh Elliott ‘10**, USMC.

First Command Financial sponsored the watch party including the food and drinks available during the game and provided periodic drawings as the game proceeded.

As we all know, Navy fell behind in the first half, but gained momentum in the second half. The ending of the game on the 1 yard line of Army was deflating to all.

Rob Skrotsky, president provided the schedule for the next meeting on Thursday, 25 January 2024, in New Bern.

Although a tough finish, the group sang “Navy Blue and Gold” with the team.

January Meeting

On Thursday, 25 January 21 alumni and spouses met at Michael’s Pub and Patio in New Bern for lunch and lots of discussion. Aaron Adams ‘95 reviewed the bank balance and we welcomed new member Lexi Axelrod, class of 2018.

The planned speaker and program, local author Les Pendleton had tested positive for covid, but the chapter president put together an interesting discussion focused on the class of 2024. Using projected material we looked at the class profile upon entering USNA in 2020. The demographics, scholastic averages, athletic achievements, geographical distribution, prior enlisted and nominating categories were all presented in a profile document prepared by USNA Admissions at the time. Next, the service assignment breakdown for the class as they prepare to enter the fleet was presented; 745 Navy and 267 Marine Corps assignments. This generated many comments and much discussion as 9 of the commissioning categories were not available to most (but not all) of us.

CHAPTER NEWS



NC Triangle Chapter: Triangle Army-Navy Watch Party



NC Triangle Chapter: 2023 Battle of the Boot Participants

For future events we noted that Navy versus Air Force baseball will be in Kinston in February and the next lunch meeting will be at Camp Lejeune on Thursday, 22 February.

The meeting concluded about 1330.

Information about the chapter is posted at myUSNA.

Rob Skrotsky, president provided the schedule for the next meeting on Thursday, 25 January 2024, in New Bern.

Tim Marvin '59
Secretary

Navy Game. While it was a disappointing result, good company and sea stories were enjoyed by all!

Congratulations to the Navy alumni team in the annual Battle of the Boot golf tournament!

Kevin Hamilton '94 hosted the event at the Neuse Country Club on November 30th. The weather was beautiful and the course was in great shape as Navy beat the Army and Air Force alumni teams.

The Navy's top scorers were **Conrad Chen '15, Frank Grecco '00, Ken Clemons (Tom Clemons's brother) and Bryan Dearolf '03**. Other Navy team participants included: **Tom Clemons '82, Eric (and wife, Sally) Benson '71, Chris Bishop (Shaun McAndrew's '93 spouse), Bill Sena '95, John Walls '86, Steve Moran '81 and Warren Schultz '71**.

Our Chapter supports the state's three submarines (NORTH CAROLINA, ASHEVILLE and CHARLOTTE). **Chris Perrien '74**, our long-time board member in multiple roles, is now the Executive Director of the North Carolina Submarine Museum. While manning the Museum booth at a recent Submarine Symposium, Chris bumped into chapter member Captain **Gary Montalvo '97**. CAPT Montalvo is a former USS NORTH CAROLINA (777) Commanding Officer and a Durham native. He's currently assigned as 'flag aide' or 'executive assistant' to Admiral Bill Houston, Director of Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

Congrats Gary! I'm sure Chris had you put a good word in with ADM Houston about the Museum plans.

For more info about the North Carolina Submarine Museum, visit the website at: <https://www.ncsubmuseum.org/>



CAPT Gary Montalvo and Chris Perrien '74 at NC Submarine Museum booth

To view the schedule of future events, please visit MyUSNA.com (Group- North Carolina Triangle Chapter) or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNAAARTP/>. Linked-in: USNA Alumni Association-Triangle Chapter (USNAAA Triangle).

Piedmont Triad Chapter

Pres: **Tom Cornejo '00**
e: thomas.cornejo@yahoo.com

Sec'y: **Josh Fogle '03**
e: foglejw@gmail.com

North Dakota

Upper Midwest Chapter

See Minnesota

Send Shipmate input to: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com

Blue & Gold Area Coordinator: **Mary Plumb**
e: Mary.plumb@yahoo.com

North Carolina Triangle Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Shaun McAndrew '93 USN (Ret.)**

e: shaun.mcandrew.2020@gmail.com

Sec'y: **CAPT Bill Coleman '95 USN (Ret.)**

e: billcoleman95@gmail.com

Website: www.usnatriangle.com



Ahoy from the North Carolina Triangle Chapter!

Our chapter was awarded the USNA Alumni Association Distinguished Chapter Award for the 7th consecutive year in a row! We appreciate our chapter members and invite local area alums to join. Alumni in the Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, and surrounding areas, visit us at myUSNA Triangle Chapter for membership.

More than 100 chapter members and their families came together at the Compass Rose Brewery in North Raleigh, to watch the Army-

Ohio

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Chapter

Pres: **Earle Babcock '74**
 p: 513-520-7776
 e: earle.babcock@1974@usna.com

Vice Pres: **Gaby Blocher '98**
 p: 513-316-5903; e: Gabrielle.Bolton@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Jennifer Yuchasz '98**
 e: jen.yuchasz@rhinestahl.com

Chapter Sec'y and Shipmate Submissions:
Jon-Michael Pollock '10
 e: jonmichaelpollock@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.usnacinci.org>
 BGO Area Coordinator: **Bryan Grubert**
 e: bryan.grubert@gmail.com

Cleveland Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Fred W. Bergman '75, USNR (Ret.)**
 p: 440-570-3564; e: FWayBergman@aol.com

Sec'y: **John Blackburn '82**
 e: joblackburn@clevelandtrack.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Doug Cabarle**
 e: douglas.cabarle@bgo.usna.com

Columbus

Pres: **Dave Goins '84**
 e: dgoins84@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Motisola Bowman '95**
 e: bmotisola@gmail.com

Treas: **Jim Waddell '71**
 e: jbwaddell@columbus.rr.com

Shipmate Contact: **Motisola Bowman '95**
 e: bmotisola@gmail.com

Parents' Club President: **Russelle Hoslinger**
 e: napccousna@gmail.com

Chapter email: USNAACbus@gmail.com

Website: https://columbus_usnachapter.net/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/100549757152451/>

Twitter: @USNAACbus

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12356597/>

Instagram: USNAACbus

Parents' Club President: **Eric Forrest**
 e: Ea4rest@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator:
Carla Dowling-Fitzpatrick
 e: dowlingfitzpatrick@sbcgolbal.net



The Columbus Chapter's annual Joint Army-Navy Game Watch Party was held this year at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus. The event was attended by over 100, including Navy and Army alumni and families and museum members. A flag raising ceremony was conducted by the Columbus South High School Army JROTC which complimented the patriotic atmosphere NVMM offers. The rivalry antics were numerous and **Wayne Hallenbeck '71** excelled at performing pushups following Navy scores.

Leading up to the game, NVMM coordinated filming a spirit video for distribution to local and national media. Navy and West Point alumni gathered for a very fun, but short event.

We met for the Dark Ages Pub Night on Saturday, February 10 at 5:30pm at the Blarney Stone Tavern in Worthington. Thanks to **Tom Gomia '70** for coordinating this popular annual event.

Monthly professional networking breakfasts are held the first Thursday of each month at First Watch in Worthington Square. We now have a private room to accommodate the crowd and are expanding the program to increase networking opportunities. Look for details of the breakfast in your email or on myUSNA.com. Thanks to **Justin Shineman '91** for making these events happen.

The Chapter's annual membership campaign is active through the end of March. Members can renew or join for the first time by following directions in the email distributed, or log onto the Columbus Chapter page at myUSNA.com to submit dues. Increasing paid membership is a priority for the Chapter this year. Our ability to support USNA and our members is enhanced by increased membership. Please contact any officer with questions regarding Chapter membership and how dues are utilized. If you are not already a dues paying member, please consider joining us.

There's a new president in town! Welcome to VADM **Ted Carter '81** and Lynda as he began his tenure as the 17th president of The Ohio State University on January 1, 2024. Go Navy! Go Buckeyes!"

Toledo Chapter

Pres: **CDR Meghan Michael '97, USN (Ret.)**
 e: meghanmichael@me.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gregory Zerr**
 e: gtzerr@gmail.com

Oklahoma

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mike Whaley**
 e: mwahley@ossaa.com

Oklahoma City Chapter

Acting Pres: **Brandon Merritt '06**

Tulsa Chapter

Pres: **Rocky Goins '84**
 e: rockygoins@hotmail.com

Vice Pres: **Patrick Hamilton '87**
 e: patrickhami@gmail.com

Sec'y and Treas: **Kasey (Cregge) Carradini '84**
 e: kcarradini@hotmail.com

Website: <http://tulsa.usnachapters.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/USNA-Alumni-Tulsa-Chapter-220243113307009>



The Tulsa Chapter joined the West Point Alumni at Fassler Hall for German sausages to watch the Army Navy Game. Unfortunately, the game did not go in Navy's way. **Steven Boyles '89** came with his newlywed, Christina, to her inaugural Army/Navy Game. We congratulate the newlyweds and look forward to seeing them on the victor's side next year.



Columbus Chapter: Wayne Hallenbeck '71 pounds out the pushups after a Navy score



Columbus Chapter: Spirit video filming at National Veterans Memorial and Museum

CHAPTER NEWS

We regret to report the loss of our beloved **Craig LaGrone '67** who passed away. We will always miss his enthusiasm. He is survived by his lovely wife, Ellen, who will always be welcomed at our future events.



Tulsa Chapter New Year luncheon

Per tradition, we held a New Year Luncheon at Ricardo's Mexican Restaurant. Attendees: Front Row: **Col Mike Meason '97**; Second Row: **Patrick Hamilton '86** and Midshipman **Stelios Boyaci '25**; Third Row: **Alyssa Farrell '99** and **Rocky Goins '84**; Forth Row: **Kasey '84** and **George Carradini '84**.

Naturally, our meal ended with a hot debate of which class has the last Plebe Year. Everyone left thinking they won. Go Navy!

*Rocky Goins '84
Chair of the U.S.S.*

*OKLAHOMA Commissioning
President of U.S. Naval Academy Alumni,
Tulsa Chapter*

Oregon

Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter

Pres: **CDR John Adams '69, USNR (Ret.)**

e: john.adams@1969.usna.com

Vice Pres: **CDR Mike Carmichael '69, USNR (Ret.)**

e: mikec@1969.usna.com

Treas: **CDR Ted Scypinski '90, USNR (Ret.)**

e: ted.scypinski@flir.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Gillian Richards**

e: jill@teamrichards.net

Website: oregon.usnachapters.net

As always December was a very busy month for the chapter.

First was the Army Navy game, watched as we always have with our West Point brethren at Big Als in Beaverton. Although not the outcome we were planning on, the gathering was fun. Present were **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **Don Haslett '66** and guests Jeff Hutchings and his son Hayleth, **Tim Myers '64**, **Doug Bomarito '68** and his guests Dave Rusnak and son Nils, **Scott Fitzpatrick '80**, **Tex Harkins '67** and wife Cecily, **Glen Weeks '65**, **Todd Washburn '93** and his son **Boone Washburn '28**, **Jack Kohl '65**

and his wife **Joan**, **Ed Hepp** and his wife **Fran**, **Seth Chy '10**, **Frank Swientec '66**, **Brian Gilday '91** and his wife Tracy, **Tim Myers '64** and his wife Mary, **Ted Scypinski '90**, **Glenn Rosen '85** and his wife Lula, **Janette Sandberg '96**, **Rich Killian '86** and guest Sherri Nexel and **David Lind '72**.

Four days later we had our monthly luncheon at the Old Spaghetti Factory. Although this luncheon has always been a celebration of the Greatest Generation, we were without any of that generation, most of which have passed on. We did set up and honor the POW/MIA table. Present were **Doug Ballard '74**, and his grandson Chase Odell, **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Scott Fitzpatrick '80**, **Jack Kohl '65**, **Buch Bewick '62**, **Mark Cooksey '71**, **Walt Higgins '66**, **Tim Myers '64**, **Doug Bomarito '68** and **Terry Connel USMA '58**.

We ended 2023 with the resurgence of the All-Academy Ball, hosted by the West Point Parents Club of Oregon/SW Washington and held at the Tualatin Country Club. The Ball was orchestrated by Jeanean Douglass, mother of a USNA Graduate, a USAFA Graduate and a West Point Cadet. The Ball was attended by **Mike Carmichael '69** and his wife Suzie, **Doug Ballard '74** and his wife Anne, **Natalie Jack '27** and her family and **Danial Olson '26** and his family. This was the first Ball since the Pandemic. Mike and Alice Quesenberry, president of the Oregon West Point Alumni Association presented the Fallen Comrade Tribute.

Our January Luncheon featured **Pete Young '67** giving a presentation on WWII shipbuilding in the Portland area. Portland shipbuilding built most of the carriers built in WWII. Present were **Mike Carmichael '69**, **Jake McMichael '58** and his guest Army veteran Ed Wallace, **Glen Weeks '65**, **Doug Ballard '74**, **Tex Harkins '67**, **Ky Nguyen** parent, **Terry Connell '58 USMA**, **Jack Kohl '64**, **Jim Kratochavil '71**, **Ed Hepp '67**, **Pete Young '67**, **George Schult '72**, **Doug Bomarito '68**, **Bruce Bewick '62**, and **Tim Myers '64**.



Pennsylvania

Philadelphia Chapter

Pres: **Rob Bender '73**

p: 267-625-3459; e: rbender@travismanion.com

Website: <http://philadelphia.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Tim Farrell '76, USN (Ret.)**

e: tim.farrell@1976.usna.com

Pittsburgh Chapter

Pres: **Conor McKenzie '06**

e: cmckenzie@janney.com

Website: Pittsburgh.usnachapters.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/usnaaa_pittsburgh/

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT David Gates '77, USN (Ret.)**

p: 724-632-6621; e: Lreese357@aol.com

USNA.COM

Bringing the Alumni Association to you.



Susquehanna Valley Chapter: Army-Navy Watch Party

Susquehanna Valley Chapter

Pres: **Tim Farrell '76**
e: im.farrell@1976.usna.com

VP: **Rob Gundlach '84**
e: rjgundlach@msn.com

Treas: **Jim Nolan '70**
e: jimnolan8470@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.usnasvc.com>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Matt Chabal '77**
e: chabal@1977.usna.com

On hand enjoying the game, camaraderie and good food and drink at our Army-Navy watch party at Lancaster Brewing Company Harrisburg were **Bill Dornsife '66**, daughter and son-in-law and USMA '66 friend, Chuck Hoffmann; **Bill Boniface '72** and wife Susan; **Bill Etsweiler '75** and wife Lisa; **Lee Erdman '76** and wife Karen; **Dave Kern '80** and wife Teresa and a nephew; **Scott Sutherland '81** and wife Kim and their guests; **Robert Ryan '84** and wife Tracy; **Matt O'Brien '94** and wife Rosemary; **Rich Olszewski '96** and wife Patti, son Will, and daughters Cecelia and Louise; and Parents Club members Kendra and Jim Pfeifer, Leanne Hains and daughter Olivia; and John and Valerie Breuninger.



January monthly gathering at Mad Chef Craft Brewing with (L to R) Tim Farrell '76 and Rob Ryan '84

Beat Army!

*Tim Farrell '76
Commander, United States Navy, Retired
President, Susquehanna Valley Chapter
United States Naval Academy Alumni Association*

Recreational Vehicle

American Chapter

Pres: **Tom Wolfe '70**
e: tsrjw71@gmail.com

Treas: **Dale Gange '70**
14518 Black Bear Rd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

Chapter Sec'y: **Don Baldwin '74**
e: donb682@gmail.com

Shipmate Correspondent: **Jennifer Stone**
(wife of Michael Weiner '87)
p: 202-909-5676; e: jastone0330@gmail.com

Website: www.rv.usnachapters.net

Facebook: **USNA RV CHAPTER**

The dust of Dodge City, Kansas, settled as the thundering herd of US Naval Academy RV Chapter Alumni with their spouses descended upon the historic town from June 6 to 11, 2023. The gathering, hosted at the Dodge City KOA campground, brought together 15 attendees in 9 RVs for an unforgettable Chapter event, showcasing the camaraderie that binds Naval Academy graduates. Attendees included: Rose and **Tom Wolfe '70** (firsties) Gail and **John Schultz '59**, **Dave Endicott '72**, **Jose Diaz '74** (this was his first Chapter event), Susan and **Don Baldwin '74**, Gail and **David Penman '75**, Maddie and **Pete Husta '79** (this was their first Chapter event), and **Darren Anderson '83** (this was his first Chapter event). The group embraced the Wild West ambiance, creating memories that will undoubtedly be shared for years to come.

The itinerary was a perfect blend of organized group activities and free time, allowing participants to immerse themselves in Dodge City's rich history and explore nearby cultural and frontier points of interest. Firstie Rose Wolfe, demonstrated her culinary prowess by preparing an authentic cowboy Chuckwagon dinner that no doubt left everyone with full bellies.

The chapter event featured a dedicated Ranger-led group tour of the nearby Fort Larned National Historic Site. What was expected to be a 30-minute tour turned into a captivating two-hour experience, with enthusiastic interaction and discussions between the Ranger guide and the engaged alumni.

One of the highlights was a dinner show featuring "Chicago" at a theater venue within the historically restored former Santa Fe RR depot. The evenings also included informal "campfire time," that provided a laid-back atmosphere for participants to connect with each other.

Attendees also explored the Boot Hill historical museum, where life-size models of Dodge City's historic buildings brought the past to life. The museum's collection, including artifacts and a section of the infamous Boot Hill Cemetery, captivated the group, while two gunfight reenactments added an extra layer of excitement.

The Historic Dodge City Trolley Tour and self-guided Walking Tour, along with visits to the Santa Fe Trail and other Southwest Kansas Day Trips, ensured that participants had ample opportunities to soak in the region's unique charm.

However, the real magic happened when an unexpected reunion unfolded. Tom Wolfe, the event Trail Boss, discovered that **Rich VanOrsdale '78**, was camping nearby. Inviting him and his wife to the firstie dinner, the attendees were in for a surprise. Rich and **Pete Husta '79**, recognized each other as high school classmates who hadn't seen each other since their graduation in 1974. The chance encounter resulted in shared reminiscences, incredible stories, and, most importantly, Rich and his wife joining the chapter.

As the dust settled once again, the Dodge City chapter event proved that the bonds formed at the US Naval Academy transcend



RV Chapter: Dodge city, Kansas KOA

CHAPTER NEWS

time and distance. The Wild West adventure will undoubtedly be etched in the memories of the alumni who gathered to celebrate their shared history and forge new connections in the heart of Kansas.

Rhode Island

BGO Area Coordinator: **CAPT Stuart Craig '86, USN (Ret.)**
e: stuart.craig@bgo.usna.com

Rhode Island Chapter

Pres: **Mike O'Sullivan '73**
p: 401-742-7091; e: michael.osullivan1973@gmail.com
Sec'y: **Col Paul Muller '88, USMC (Ret.)**
p: 401-248-3405; e: usmctanker@cox.net

South Carolina

BGO Area Coordinator: **Ryan Blacklock**
e: ryan.blacklock@2004.usna.com

Central Savannah River Area

(Aiken, SC; Augusta, GA; and surrounding areas)
Pres: **LtCol Dave Smith '73, USMC (Ret.)**
e: dsmith708@atlanticbb.net
Sec'y: **Brian Goldschmidt '94**
e: goldschmidtbp@gmail.com
Website: <http://csra.usnachapters.com>

Charleston Chapter

Pres: **CDR Rick Stein '82, USNR (Ret.)**
784 Preservation Pl., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
p: 843-856-6591; w: 843-557-7021
e: USNA_AA_Charleston@Comcast.net

December Meeting

On Monday, December 18, The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our Speaker was CDR Jason Plumley, USCG (USCGA '03), XO, Coast Guard Base Charleston. In Attendance were: Max Hill '51; Fuzzy Knight '53; Jim Flatley '56; Curt Holcomb '61; John Common '64; Ray Setser '65; Alan Burkhardt '67; Bernie Magdelain '67; Jim Welsch '67; Ray Donahue '74; David Oyster '74; Joe Delpino '75; Kirk Donald '75; Bill Konrad '75; Dave Shimp '76; Denny Simon '77; Rick Stein '82; Brad Murphy '83; Perry Ramicone '83; Greg Shore '84; and Kai Yeh '90.

January Meeting

On Monday, 15 January, The Charleston Chapter held its Monthly Meeting. Our Speaker was Thomas Mundell, President and CEO of the Medal of Honor Leadership and Education Center. He shared some interesting statistics: As of 1-15-2024, There have been 3017 Recipients on the Medal of Honor. 65 are Living: 1 from Korea Conflict; 48 from Viet Nam War, and 16 from the War on Terror. In Attendance were: Max Hill '51; Fuzzy Knight '53; Curt Holcomb '61; Ray Setser '65; Bernie Magdelain '67; Jim Welsch '67; Mike Malone '68; Steve Weise '72; Al Olsen '72; David Oyster '74; Dave Fisher '76; Dave Shimp '76; Denny Simon '77; Rick Stein '82; OP Honors '83;

Brad Murphy '83; and Billy Hall '05. The pictures below are from Fuzzy Knight's '53 award of the Order of the Palmetto; the State of South Carolina's Highest Civilian Award.



(Left to Right): Dave Shimp '76, Alan Burkhardt '67, Jim Lyons '74, Ray Setser '65, Bernie Magdelain '67, and Fuzzy Knight '53.

The Charleston Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12 Noon in Mount Pleasant. No reservation required. The Charleston Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12 Noon in Mount Pleasant. No reservation required.

Low Country Chapter

Pres: **Tom Cavanaugh '69**
p: 516-220-9896; e: tomcavanaugh69@gmail.com
Vice Pres: **Dave Igyarto '74**
e: igyartodp@icloud.com
Sec'y: **Tim Johnson '02**
e: tim.w.johnson@outlook.com
Treas: **John Scanlan '83**
e: ping1@hargray.com

Palmetto Chapter

Pres: **Jerry Pilewski '97**
e: palmettousna@usna.com
Vice Pres: **Brian Treanor '89**
e: brian_treanor@hotmail.com
Sec'y: **Suzanne Hopper**
(husband, John Hopper '95 and son, Selik Hopper '23)
e: hoppermomx6@gmail.com

South Carolina Midlands Chapter

Pres: **Craig Augenstein '87**
4847 Furman Ave., Columbia, SC 29206
p: 803-309-3060; e: Craigaugenstein@gmail.com
Sec'y: **Chuck Tebrich '66**
e: chuckteb@gmail.com
Website: www.usnasc.org

South Dakota

Send *Shipmate* input to: **Nathan CW Smith '98**
e: nathancwsmith@outlook.com
BGO Area Coordinator: **Sharon Holt '00**
p: 605-390-3430; e: holtsharon@aol.com

Spain

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Turbeville '01**
e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

Rota Chapter

Pres: **Michael Carsley '88**
e: michael.carsley@eu.navy.mil
Vice Pres: **Ryan Eilerman '15**
Treas: **Cassidy Masey '06**
e: cassidy.a.massey@gmail.com
Sec'y: **Dustin Cunningham '06**

Tennessee

Chattanooga Chapter

Pres: **Casey Turner '01**
6408 Forest Park Dr., Signal Mountain, TN, 37377
p: 423-355-7771; e: lcaseyturner@gmail.com
BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard Cataldi '69, USN (Ret.)**
p: 865-966-4677; e: cdrctaldi@tds.net

Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter

Pres: **Kristen Daniel '02**
e: kristenandwesley@gmail.com
Sec'y-Treas: **Jim Ward '85**
e: jim.ward@1985.usna.com
Website: <http://k-or.usnachapters.net/>

BGO Area Coordinator: **CDR Richard Cataldi '69, USN (Ret.)**
p: 865-966-4677; e: cdrctaldi@tds.net

The Knoxville-Oak Ridge Chapter hosted the annual Army-Navy Football Watch Party at the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville. Navy had 14 alumni; Army had 5. The combination of alumni, spouses, and guests brought the total attendees to 45. Everyone brought a snack tray to share and their favorite beverage so there were ample grazing opportunities. Thanks to Rich Cataldi for securing the venue and overseeing the event.

USNA Alumni Attendees: **Mike Brady '96, Rich Cataldi '69, Steve Crowe '77, Dan Elins '75, Rudy Escher '78, Ernie Gonzales '81, Tim Hallihan '72, Buddy Holt '73, Bob Milhiser '64, Ryan Miller '07, John Sharp '77, Fred Stuvek '74, Craig Toney '00 and Andy Wehrle '72.**

Our next major event will be hosting a luncheon for Class of 2024 rowers and coaches of the USNA Men's Lightweight Rowing team during the team's Spring training in Oak Ridge in March 2024.

On 8 June we will host a Welcome Aboard Picnic for the incoming Class of 2028 from East Tennessee.

If any alumni relocate to or visit East Tennessee, please join our monthly



Knoxville Chapter: Army-Navy Watch Party 2023 in Knoxville

luncheon at Famous Dave's BBQ in Knoxville on the first Wednesday of each month except March, when we meet on 13 March in Oak Ridge.

Memphis Chapter

Pres: **Henry W. Papa Jr. '86**
p: 907-244-7492; e: hankpapa@aol.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Drew Wyrick**
e: wyrick03@gmail.com

Nashville Chapter

Pres: **CDR John F. Ohlinger '69, USN (Ret.)**
880 Lakemont Dr., Nashville, TN 37220-2124
h: 615-370-1441; w: 615-594-7628
e: john.ohlinger@usna.1969.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Thomas Forsythe '79**
e: tom_forsythe@kyzen.com

Texas

Alamo Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Ron A. Sandoval '81, USN**
18010 Keystone Blf., San Antonio, TX 78258-3436

Please send *Shipmate* Submissions and all correspondences to:
Sec'y: **Dave Driskell '63**
P.O. Box 461564, San Antonio, TX 78246-1564
e: info@alamogoats.org

Website: <http://www.alamo.usnachapters.com>

Facebook: **Alamo Chapter NAAA**

BGO Area Coordinator: **Eric Montgomery '04**
p: 410-507-2832; e: eric.montgomery@2004.usna.com

The chapter attempted to sponsor an Army Navy game viewing party, but we were thwarted at the last minute by a dispute between CBS and Direct TV. It turns out that most of our familiar sports bars use Direct TV for their feed. Hence the game was not available for any reasonable Chapter-sponsored gathering. After we abandoned our efforts, many private gatherings popped up and shared pictures. I am including the pictures they shared and thank them for their efforts. It is a shame that we lost the game, but our spirit remains high. We are currently working on a meeting at USAA in February, but you will not be reading this until late March or early April. I hope everyone checks their emails regularly.



Laura Koerner '97, with Mid'n Barron Cohoon '27's parents at 28 Songs watch party.



Attendees at the 28 Songs watch party

The various watch parties that sent pictures are noted:

Chapline Distilleries sponsored by **Michael ('80) and Carmine ('81) Chapline**.

28 Songs in Boerne hosted by owner Arthur Humphries, a Navy veteran. It was a joint event with WooPoos in attendance as well.



Alamo Chapter: L to R: Derek Fuller '89, Mike Chapline '80, Jim Kiehle '62, Sarah Kovel '82, Carmine Chapline '81, and Stephanie ('08) and Jake (09) Rivera at Chapline Distillery's game watch party.

Also, one of our current applicants hosted his entire AJROTC cohort at his house.

Dave Driskell '63
Secretary

Austin Chapter

Pres: **Brad Holbrook '06**
p: 410-718-8839; e: bradley.holbrook@gmail.com

Treas: **Kevin Windbigler '86**
p: 512-923-5010; e: hans2886@austin.rr.com

Shipmate Contact: **CDR Don McAlister '63, USNR (Ret.)**
p: 512-365-7068; e: don.mcalister@austin.rr.com

Website: Austin.usnachapters.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Dave Driskell '63**
p: 210-275-4011; e: daved@frand.com

North Texas Chapter

Director at Large: **Daryl Smith '88**

Pres: **Jamey Cummings '93**
e: pres@usnaaa-ntx.com

Vice Pres of Programs: **Carrie Murdock '99**

Vice Pres of Membership: **Ty Rose '06**

Treasurer: **Greg Colandrea '90**

Sec'y: **Frankie Delgado '95**
e: secy@usnaaa-ntx.com

Website: www.usnaaa-ntx.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Tom Eschenbrenner**
p: 972 740 4060; e: eschenbrenner@gmail.com

Happy Spring from North Texas! We are still waiting on the sage to bloom. At the end of 2023, the chapter President, **Jamey Cummings '93**, sent out a letter to all the North Texas membership rolling up what was the year and providing insights on some upcoming events in 2024. Below is a brief rollup of major 2024 milestones to look forward to: **As of 31 March, the chapter will complete its migration to the myUSNA platform** for all activities and information flow, in **April - the Blue Angels will be at JRB Fort Worth** culminating Navy week in North Texas, also in **April, the Chapter is working to have a special speaker at the luncheon** affiliated with the Navy SEAL foundation (check the chapter events), **June** - in conjunction with the Parent's Club, **we'll welcome the class of '28 at a lunch**. During the summer we will be planning some family events and then as usual, the fall will be filled with Navy football watching parties! In November we'll participate

CHAPTER NEWS



North Texas Chapter: Blue Chip Dinner - Midshipmen close out the Blue Chip with the singing of Navy Blue and Gold

in the Service Academy flag football tournament and culminate the year with the Army-Navy watch party and the 54th annual Blue Chip dinner.

In December, the chapter did host the 53rd annual Blue Chip dinner with Commandant of Midshipman, **Col J.P. McDonough '94**, USMC served as the featured speaker. Also in attendance were CMC Karim Cole, USN, Alumni Assoc. CEO **Jeff Webb '95**, Dean of Admissions **Latta '78**, 23 Midshipmen, North Texas Blue & Gold officers and 52 candidates and their families. As always, the Parents' Club played a critical role in supporting this marquee event.



Luncheon: CAPT Dan Acton '77, ADM Walsh '77 (Ret.), Dan Murphy '75



Blue Chip: Dean Latta '78 and Commandant of Midshipman, Col McDonough '94, USMC deliver letters of acceptance

In January, the chapter luncheon featured Distinguished Graduate, **ADM Pat Walsh '77** (Ret.), former Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and current President of Cristo Rey Dallas College Prep. ADM Walsh engaged the audience with his insights into the geopolitical challenges of the Pacific theater and ended with the inspirational story of Cristo Rey's noble mission supporting the youth of Dallas. Please do not forget to sign up for the North Texas Chapter in your groups in the myUSNA platform. Come join us at the next luncheon!

Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

Pres: **Dan Hanley '10**

e: dhanley@2010.usna.com

Vice Pres: **Luke Schamel '10**

e: luke.schamel@2010.usna.com

Treas: **Rich Bulger '69**

e: rbulger69@gmail.com

Sec'y: **John Augusto '02**

e: john.a.augusto@gmail.com

Website: <http://txgulfoast.myusna.com/>

Facebook: @USNAATXGC

Email: txgulfoast.usnachapters@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Link**

e: cdr.dlink@gmail.com

December 01 The Houston area Army-Navy golf scramble was held, and Navy came out victorious in the 2023 Houston Area Army Navy Golf Tournament. 12 folks played on the Houston Navy team: Steve O'Connor, Marc Lawson, Chris Black, Drew Sims, Adam Dorminey, David Hills, Rick Bush, Dick Richards, Royce Engler, Jim Modeland, Ryan Dupnick, and Laura Sims.

December 09 The official Houston Army-Navy Watch Party was hosted at the Karbach Biergarten. The TX GC Chapter partnered with the West Point Society of Greater Houston, Lone Star Sports Entertainment (part of the Houston Texans), the nonprofit veteran service organization, NextOp. Proceeds from the event benefitted NextOp, USNAAA TX Gulf Coast Chapter Foundation, and the West Point Society of Greater Houston Foundation.

NextOp is a nonprofit veteran service organization headquartered in Houston that provides free, individualized employment assistance to middle enlisted (ranks E3 - E7) transitioning service members and veterans. They have helped over 3,700 veterans attain high-quality careers since 2015.

January 03 The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter awards the Smith-McCool Sword the the 1/c Midshipman from the Chapter area with the highest order-of-merit. The award is named after astronaut **Michael Smith '67**, who was lost in the CHALLENGER disaster, and astronaut **William McCool '83**, who was lost in the COLUMBIA disaster. We are pleased to honor MIDN 1/C **James Pulliam '25 of Jasper, TX** as this year's recipient. As guest speaker and to award the sword to the mid was current astronaut, Lt Col **Nicole Mann '99**. The meeting was attended by 54 chapter members and guests.



TxGC will continue to host suburb suburb lunches or happy hours. If you have restaurant suggestions (12 - 20+ attendees with "separate checks") please contact us at TxGulfCoast.usnachapters@gmail.com.

Member News:

Derek Moorehead '18 recently completed his time onboard the USS ILLINOIS (SSN-786) and moved to Houston, where he started working with Derrick Corporation as a Technical Service Engineer.

Salam Kako '15 recently moved to Houston following separating from active duty and started work as an Associate Sales Representative with Abbott in their medical technology division, specifically cardiac rhythm devices.

Aaron Ingram '12 started as a pilot with the Texas A&M University system. He is continuing as Director of Operation with PreVeteran, a company focused on optimizing transition for military members and their spouses.

James Long '10 was recently promoted to Partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, a global law firm.

Zach Williams '96 has joined American Bureau of Shipping as a Program Manager for Government Programs. ABS is a global leader in providing classification services for marine and offshore assets.

Future Events

Luncheons are tentatively set for the first Friday of each month. These luncheons are expected to be at El Tiempo Cantina, 2814 Navigation Blvd, Houston 77003.

Suburb no-host lunches are typically each quarter in Clear Lake at El Tiempo Cantina - Webster, with periodic events planned in other surrounding suburbs.

Follow TxGC on MyUSNA, Texas Gulf Coast Chapter (Group). Please submit any questions or suggestions related to TxGC, as well as inquiries about volunteer opportunities within the Chapter to txgulfcoast.usnachapters@gmail.com.

DO YOU LIVE IN HOUSTON? We have over 1,000 members & growing volunteer opportunities available in different locations throughout the year! Minimal commitment required to actively participate and enjoy the camaraderie of one of the largest Alumni Association Chapters! Email: txgulfcoast.usnachapters@gmail.com or current President (DHanley@2010.usna.com) to learn about our latest events and visit with us!

United Kingdom

BGO Area Coordinator: **Wes Turbeville '01**
e: bgoarea501coordinator@gmail.com

United Kingdom Chapter

Pres: **Tim Fox '97**
e: timfox97@hotmail.com

Vice Pres: **Cody Nissen '11**
e: cnissen.mba2018@london.edu

Sec'y: **Lisa Aszklar (Wife, Henry '81)**
e: lisa.aszklar@gmail.com

Board of Directors: **Tony Cox '89**
e: tony.cox@gboutdoorfires.co.uk

Chris Robinson '98
e: naples98@gmail.com

Greetings from London, where Spring is supposedly just around the corner (according to the meteorologists), and Navy spirit has helped carry us through the long winter!

Navy may not have sung last on 9 December, but the alumni and friends who gathered for the UK Chapter's annual Army-Navy Game Watch tried their hardest to carry the Mids to a win over the Black Knights.

About seventy-five fans met at the Leake Street (Waterloo Station) location of Passyunk Avenue — home of all things Navy on this side of The Pond — and cheered for their respective teams. The split was roughly two-to-one split for Navy among the attendees, but the camaraderie and mutual respect between the alumni of these two great service academies really reinforced the fact that we share common values.

We were pleased to meet several recent USNA alumni who are studying under post-baccalaureate scholarships at Oxford, and these younger folks really kept the party hopping!



L to R Oxford University students and USNA alumni **Jeremy Stevens '23**, **Caroline Turner '22**, **Logan Williams '21**, **James Potticary '22**, and **Lian Dunlevy '23**.

But the younger alumni certainly weren't the only attendees who understood the meaning of the terms demerit, come-around, and rack burn. **Brian Cully '17**, **Jason Stone '04**, **Brandon Smith '02**, **Rob Niemeyer '02** and **Mike Widmann '00** together gave the Oxford contingent a run for their Navy spirit!



L to R **Brandon Smith '02**, **Rob Niemeyer '02**, **Jason Stone '04** and **Brian Cully '17**.

Chapter President **Tim Fox '97** was pleasantly surprised to see his old Navy lacrosse teammate, **Mike Widmann '00**, who is on active duty and posted in the UK. Except for the May 2022 event with the Secretary of Defense **Carlos Del Toro**, Tim and Mike hadn't crossed paths since 1997!



L to R **Mike Widmann '00**, **Mila Widmann**, and **Tim Fox '97**

Looking ahead, Tim's connection with the Royal British Legion has enabled him to schedule an exciting one-of-a-kind, over-18 visit to the Tower of London and the on-site Beefeaters' pub on 24 August. Our group will witness the Ceremony of the Keys as the Tower is secured for the night, then head back to the pub for a pint or two before last call. Contact Tim at timfox97@hotmail.com to reserve your spot. Participation is limited to 20, so early notice is appreciated.

Finally, BZ to two Navy rugby players who have each won a scholarship to study in the UK after graduation. **Abigail (AJ) Ward** is one of only 32 students nationwide to receive a Rhodes Scholarship this year for study at Oxford University following graduation in 2024, and **Charlotte d'Halluin**, captain of the women's Navy rugby team, will study at both the University of Edinburgh and University College London under a Marshall Scholarship. Read more here: www.bit.ly/3S7FCNs

We hope both these outstanding scholars will find time to join us!

Until next time, GO NAVY BEAT ARMY!

Utah

Intermountain Alumni Chapter

Pres: **Robert Allen '67**
e: ba@robertallen.org

Vice Pres: **Ryan Merrell '00**
e: ryanmerrell@yahoo.com

Treas: **Mike Hester '69**
e: mikehester46@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Tabeetha Moesinger '91**
e: tabeetha@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Darrin Briggs '03**
e: Darrin.Briggs@gmail.com

Virginia

Central Virginia Chapter

Pres: **Bill Murray '83**
e: whmurray34@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Ty Schieber '87**
e: ty.schieber@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Ed Borger '80**
e: ed.borger@honeywell.com

Treas: **Steve Hill '74**
e: swhill74@cstone.net

BGO Area Coordinator: **Don Aldridge**
e: n774pk@gmail.com

MATCHING GIFTS

Call 410-295-4178 to find out how you can match your recent contribution.

SHIPMATE

More than 85 years available online to all Alumni Association members. Visit usna.com/shipmate.

CHAPTER NEWS

Hampton Roads Chapter

Pres: **Renee Reedy '81**
 e: reedy81@usnahamptonroads.com
 h: 757-312-8969; w: 757-328-0030
 Website: www.usnahamptonroads.com



Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/USNAHamptonRoads>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
 p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com

The 2023 Army-Navy game has passed into history; but despite the disappointment associated with the outcome in Foxborough, MA, in Hampton Roads it can unequivocally be said, "We may have lost the game, but we won the party!" On 9 December more than 300 Navy fans and alumni from all classes poured into Shore Break Pizza and Taphouse in Virginia Beach for our annual Army-Navy party where they enjoyed some terrific camaraderie and the copious level of food and drink expected at this hugely popular event! A rousing BZ goes out to Event Coordinator Al Ponessa '68 and his planning team that included Dick Enderly '71, Ken Marks '71, Dave Duffie '75, Steve Nimitz '76, Chapter President Renee Reedy '81, Ted Digges '85, Vince Bowhars '85, and Rob Aeschbach '90! In addition to the watch party, a Silent Auction featuring over 90 donated prizes raised nearly \$5000, most of which the Chapter is proud to be donating to our Alma Mater for the Naval Academy Summer Seminar, the Summer STEM program, and the International Program. Attendees also generously supported Toys for Tots monetarily and with donated new toys; and plans are already underway for an equally spirited event this December!



Navy fans in Hampton Roads



Christine and Frank McBride '73 at Hampton Roads Army-Navy Party

Our monthly Networking Breakfast continued to include a variety of interesting speakers. To kick off 2024 the January speaker was **John Cordle '84**, principal advisor to Commander, Naval Surface Force for Human Factors/ Human Systems, and Integration matters, including sleep and the circadian rhythm, inclusion, leadership, and mentorship. John highlighted some of the Navy's new programs, policies, and initiatives intended to improve our Sailors' sleep, mental health, and quality of service. The February speaker was Michael Provost, CEO of the Vessel Disposal & Reuse Foundation (VDRF), whose mission is to help local waterways achieve sustainable health through removal of abandoned and derelict vessels. In March we enjoyed an informative presentation from VDOT on the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel expansion project; and our 17 April speaker will be Heather McKeating, the Public Relations Director for the Norfolk Tides.



Navy Blue & Gold

While the Dark Ages have descended upon USNA, our annual Dark Ages Happy Hour at the Yard House in Virginia Beach Town Center on 25 January helped brighten the mood locally. Camaraderie, lifting spirits, and good food and drink were the orders of the day; and the same will be true for our upcoming planned monthly Happy Hours.

The new year will bring changes in Chapter leadership. In February and March, a committee headed by Mark Rupprecht '76 accepted nominations and vetted candidates for the 2024-2026 Board of Directors; and in April the membership voted on that committee's approved slate of officers and directors. The new Board will be seated at our Annual Meeting scheduled for 17 April.

For the latest news on future Chapter initiatives and events, as well as USNA news and updates, check out our website under the Hampton Roads Group at myUSNA.com. And don't forget our LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook pages!

Dick Enderly '71

Quantico Area Chapter

Pres: **George Williams '87**
 e: bucketokinawa@gmail.com
 Vice Pres: **Ryan Steenberge '10**
 e: ryan.steenberge@gmail.com
 Treas: **Ron Diefenbach '00**
 e: QACUSNAATreasurer@yahoo.com



Sec'y: **Nancy Springer '87**
 e: nancy.a.springer.nancy@aol.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
 e: james.m.ripley@gmail.com

Website: <http://quantico.usnachapters.net>

On 1 December, 21 Chapter members gathered at The Hampton Inn, Dumfries and on Zoom for the December installment of our ongoing Breakfast Speaker Series. This month, the Chapter hosted three guests from USNAAA & Foundation: Nancy Murray, **Donnie Kennedy '92**, and Dean Capito who conveyed very important information to the Chapter. The group acquainted QAC with the roles of the Alumni Association and the Foundation, Strategic Plan 2030, and the history and status of Fluegel Alumni Center. Of note, Nancy Murray commented that USNAAA's overarching goal is to serve and support alumni throughout all phases of our lives, helping us to thrive and reach our full potential. Also, QAC learned that Fluegel Alumni Center has 1237 plank holders representing the \$10M in donations needed to support the facility's operations and maintenance.

On 9 December QAC hosted its 7th Annual Army-Navy Football Watch Party for the students, staff & faculty of The Basic School, Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia. More than 100 lieutenant students and approximately 15 Chapter Members, families and friends came out to watch the game and enjoy the camaraderie in The Hawkins Room. Despite the disappointing outcome, the Chapter had a lot of fun watching the game with some of the Marine Corps' newest officers.

CHAPTER SECRETARY COLUMN DEADLINES

Send to: chapternews@usna.com

2024

ISSUE:	DUE DATE:
May-June '24	28 Mar '24
July-August '24	4 Jun '24
September-October '24	6 Aug '24
November-December '24	3 Oct '24



Quantico Area Chapter: Visiting The National Museum of the Marine Corps



Enjoying QAC's 7th Annual Army Navy Watch Party

Moving into the new year, 24 Chapter members gathered to hear comments from BGen Maura Hennigan, President of the Marine Corps University (MCU). The General provided a brief orientation of MCU, its mission, and a description of its courses and other educational engagements. She emphasized that MCU strives to use its educational programs to build a warfighter with highly developed critical thinking skills, crucial to victory in the Marine Corps current operational concept.

On 27 January, QAC took advantage of having The Museum of the Marine Corps in nearby Triangle, Virginia and arranged a visit to this unique repository of Marine Corps history. Joined by Hampton Roads Chapter and the Central Virginia Parents' Club, Chapter Members and families enjoyed a morning exploring the very well-furnished Museum. The Chapter's Navy Senior Enlisted Advisor and Museum docent, Dave Mattingly, coordinated enough fellow docents to divide the 32-person group into smaller elements for a very personal tour. The Museum staff strives for realism in the exhibits, including adjusting the temperature in exhibit rooms to simulate the "feel" of the depicted battle. Accordingly, it was a bit chilly in the Chosin Reservoir room! The QAC leadership team thanks **Bob Taylor '74** who coordinated this special event.

Area alumni are always welcome at Chapter events. Please check our calendar and Facebook page for more information.

Richmond Chapter

Pres: **Michael Metzger '89**
e: michael.metzger@1989.usna.com

Sec'y: **Matt Laser '97**
e: lasermatthew@gmail.com

Website: <http://richmond.usnachapters.net>

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com

Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Pres: **David McLellan '73**
p: 540-722-2060; e: dcmclmd@earthlink.net

Sec'y: **LCDR Grayson Redford '63, USN (Ret.)**
p: 540-662-6142

BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley '74**
e: james.m.ripley@gmail.com

Virginia Peninsula Chapter

(formerly the Williamsburg Chapter)

Pres: **Kathleen Jabs '88**
e: kjabs@aol.com; vapeninsulachapterusna@gmail.com

Vice Pres: **Rick Yasky '78**
e: rickyasky@gmail.com

Sec'y: **Mark Zito**
e: markpaulzito@gmail.com

BGO Area Coordinator: **LCDR David Lannetti '81, USN (Ret.)**
p: 757-423-8602; e: dlannetti81@gmail.com

Website: www.myusna.com

Group: **Virginia Peninsula Chapter**

Chapter dues are \$30 a year and nametags (optional) are \$12.

DUES and Contributions:
Send your checks to our treasurer:
USNA VA Peninsula
c/o Gary Carlile
3724 Mesa River
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Chapter Dues are primarily in support of Chapter events, USNA Midshipmen activities on the Peninsula (Sporting events and movement orders) and support for USNA STEM and Summer Seminar participation by VA Peninsula high school students.

October 2023 Activities

In October, our alumni community gathered at Waterman's Museum for an engaging evening featuring Doug Sanderson, a distinguished member of our extended community. Doug, who holds the unique distinction of being the last man on the airplane during the 2009 Miracle on the Hudson, shared his firsthand account of the harrowing experience.



December 2023 Activities

Despite the heart-wrenching last-minute loss in the Army-Navy football game, our alumni came together for an unforgettable watch party at Revolution Golf and Grille-where several of us meet regularly for Navy football. Special thanks go to Georgeanne Williams for coordinating the event, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie, and turning a challenging outcome into a raging success. The shared passion for our alma mater and spirited support for the teams made this gathering a testament to the enduring bonds within our community.

CHAPTER NEWS



Greater Washington Chapter: Alumni and friends celebrate the Army-Navy game at Valor Brew Pub/Ugly Mug



Future Activities

All Navy alumni, family, and significant others are welcome at all our events. If you aren't on our email list, please send us a note at vapeninsulaa@gmail.com and we will notify you about upcoming luncheons and other events.

Service Academy BizNetwork Breakfast Meeting

On the 1st Wednesday of each month, the Service Academy BizNetwork Breakfast Meeting is held locally at Jason's Deli either in Hampton or Chesapeake, VA; however, the meeting is specifically in a hybrid format to facilitate maximum participation. **Rob Hanckel '73** is the host of these meetings. Contact **Mark Zito** <markpaulzito@gmail.com> if you are interested in learning about this group or desire to attend meetings.

If you live on the Virginia Peninsula and are interested in joining our chapter, please contact **Kathleen Jabs**, our chapter president, to be welcomed and put on our email list. If you know of other USNA grads in the area who might be interested in joining us, please let us know and pass along their contact information. The hospitality committee will contact them and add them to our email list.

Washington

BGO Area Coordinator: **Darin Perrine**
e: dperrine@mailbox.org



Greater Washington Chapter: Alumni and friends celebrate the Army-Navy game at Valor Brew Pub/Ugly Mug

Hanford/Tri-Cities Chapter

Pres: **CAPT Edward Schwier '69, USN (Ret.)**
1196 Brentwood Ave., Richland, WA 99352-8540
h: 509-627-7288; w: 509-372-0176
e: Edward_G_Ed_Schwier@rl.gov; eschwier@charter.net;
egschwier@aol.com
Website: <http://hanford.usnachapters.com>

Puget Sound Chapter

Pres: **Alan Schrader '92**
e: usnaaa.psc@gmail.com
Sec'y: **George Windsor '75**
e: gbwindsor@icloud.com
Website: <https://myusna.com/topics/9554>

On 9 December the Chapter had a good turnout yesterday in Bremerton despite a rainy/snowy day and, of course, a less than desirable outcome. A total of 13 alumni and 8 spouses and guests attended. Alumni who attended: **Alan Schrader '92, Mike Mathews '75, Lonnie Overson '67, Bob Dropp '61, Tom Zwolfer '88, Walt Draper '61, Mike Lefever '76, Dean Smith '83, Jim Stites '88, Greg Gephardt '87, Steve Fabry '65, Randy Curnutt '71 and Dave Shafer '79.**



(2) On 8 November - Our speaker series concluded with Bob Fishman presenting Part 5 of 5: The series was recorded and is available upon request.

Washington, DC Area



Greater Washington Chapter

Pres: **Anthony Calandra '88**
e: president@usnagwc.org
Vice Pres: **Luis Martinez '01**
e: vicepresident@usnagwc.org
Sec'y: **Alexis Opferman '17**
e: secretary@usnagwc.org
Treas: **Chris Georgi '96**
e: treasurer@usnagwc.org
Outreach and Engagement: **Heidi Lenzini '95**
e: outreach@usnagwc.org
Diversity and Inclusion: **Alberto Ramos '10**
e: diversity@usnagwc.org
Trustee: **Jill Rough '96**
e: trustee@usnagwc.org
Website: www.usnagwc.org
BGO Area Coordinator: **Jim Ripley**
e: james.m.ripley@gmail.com

2024 will be an eventful year for our chapter - check out our website on MyUSNA and social media (Facebook and LinkedIn) for more information. If you cannot register for an event, check your membership status by navigating to your USNA profile. Please invite your classmates

CHAPTER NEWS/SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

and other alumni, family and friends to join us. We hosted our first networking event Jan. 17 at Mattie and Eddie's (formerly Sine) close to the Pentagon, which was well attended. Thanks to **Chris Georgi '96** for organizing! Check your calendars and our social media for upcoming **bike rides**, led by **Kate Murray '00** and **Mike Cantwell '87**. We're looking forward to our **annual picnic May 4 at Ft. Hunt** - family, friends, midshipmen and candidates are all welcome! The event is covered, so we will celebrate rain or shine. This is our second-largest event after the Army-Navy game. Finally, keep an eye out for the **Annual Service Academy Golf Tournament** in July, headed by **Kwame Cook '96**. A percentage of the proceeds will benefit the local chapters, so bring your friends to Beat Army and Air Force! Welcome to our new members, we can't wait to meet all of you!

Wisconsin

BGO Area Coordinator: **Mr. Leonard Green**
e: leonard.green.a@gmail.com

Wisconsin Chapter

Pres: **Jeff Reagan '88**
e: j.m.reagan84@gmail.com
p: 414-803-5947

Vice Pres: **Craig Walker '83**
e: craigwalker@wi.rr.com
p: 262-424-2637

Sec'y: **Rob Grasse '88**
e: rgrasse1@wi.rr.com
p: 262-424-9029

At Large: **Chris Adams '75**
p: 414-553-0892

Website: www.myusna.com

Wisconsin Naval Academy Parents' Association (WISNAPA)

Presidents: **Lisa & Chad Stigler**
Vice-Presidents: Steve & Katie Kotansky
e: wisnapacontact@gmail.com

Website: www.myusna.com

Wisconsin Blue and Gold Officer Coordinator

BGO Area Coordinator: Mr. Mark Germano
e: Mark.Germano@bgo.usna.com
p: 847-624-5142

CELEBRATING OUR 30TH YEAR!

Join us at the Chicago SACC as we celebrate the tradition of assisting alumni to network, make career transitions and hire fellow alumni.

Chicago, IL 9-10 May 2024
www.sacc-jobfair.com

SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



NAMA Shared Interest Group

NAMA

Naval Academy Minority Association

Pres: **RADM Julius S. Caesar '77, USN (Ret.)**
e: executive-director@usnama.com

Vice Pres: **LCDR Valerie Mansfield '92, USN (Ret.)**
e: deputy-director@usnama.com

CoS: **CDR Calvin Bumphus '97, USN (Ret.)**
e: chief-of-staff@usnama.com

Treas: **C.J. Willis '75**
e: treasurer@usnama.com

BGO Coordinator: **Vacant**
e: bgo@usnama.com

Shipmate Contact: **LCDR Jessica Anderson '08, USN**
e: communications@usnama.com

Website: www.usnama.com

EVENTS

Upcoming Events:

SAVE-THE-DATE! The 2024 USNA Alumni Leadership Forum with the Gala highlighting AAPI achievements in the naval service will be held April 18-20, 2024 in Annapolis, MD at the Fluegel Alumni Center. Make sure you

register and join us! We are also in full swing of supporting STEM and NASS candidates.

NAMA offers many resources and is an excellent way to GIVE BACK to the institution that shaped us into the leaders we are today and in the future. Join NAMA today and get involved! We look forward to seeing what great work we can do together!

Past Events:

Many NAMA members were in attendance as USNA welcomed **VADM Davids '89** as the first female Superintendent. Congratulations!

NAMA partnered with the Naval Academy Foundation to establish the Naval Academy Minority Affairs Fund (NAMAFA). Your donations support on-campus visits for students and Centers of Influence, scholarship funding for STEM and NASS, Gospel Choir travel, and Midshipman activities.

Visit usna.com/give or follow the directions on the NAMA website, <https://www.usnama.com/donation-selection/> to donate today.

NESA

Naval Engineers & STEM Advocates (NESA)

Pres: **Admiral John Richardson '82, USN (Ret.)**

Vice Pres: **CDR Sarah Rice '02, USN**
e: sarah.b.rice@gmail.com

Sec'y: **CDR Renee Reedy '81, USN (Ret.)**
e: reedy81@usnahamptonroads.com

Treas: **LT John Rex Spivey '13, USN**
e: johnrexspivey@gmail.com

Outreach & Engagement: **Dr. Jill Rough '96, CAPT USNR**
e: jill.rough@comcast.net

CoS: **CAPT Dale Lumme '80, USN (Ret.)**
e: kid.lumme@1980.usna.com

NAMA Liaison: **CAPT Timi Lindsay '92, USN (Ret.)**
e: timi.lindsay@gmail.com

MyUSNA

MyUSNA is where your chapter can grow and where your events can get to the next level. Scan the QR code to amplify your USNA alumni experience as we strengthen bonds and form new ones.



SHARED INTEREST GROUPS



Run To Honor Shared Interest Group: 13th Company Runs the Army/Navy football from USNA to Foxborough, MA while honoring fallen former company members

Run to Honor

Pres: **Steve Swift '87**
 p: 813-787-6098
 e: president@runtohonor.com
 Vice Pres: **Pat McConnell '02**
 e: vp@runtohonor.com
 Treas: Jan Kennedy
 Sister of **John Kennedy '79**
 e: treasurer@runtohonor.com
 Sec'y: **Shannon Webb '04**
 e: secretary@runtohonor.com
 Website: www.runtohonor.com

Seeking a means to show support, commemorate, and pay tribute to our departed alumni? We invite you to join us! RTH's is organizing Memorial Day events around the country in honor of our fallen USNA Alumni. To find an event near you or to lead an event, contact the Memorial Day committee leads listed in the 'Upcoming 2024 events.'

Midshipmen from 13th Company embarked on their longest ball run yet, covering the distance to Gillette Stadium. On 5 December, 196 runners kicked off the journey from T-court, carrying the Army/Navy football for the upcoming game. The unique aspect was the dog tags each Midshipman wore, bearing names of 11 fallen 13th Company members who sacrificed their lives in service post-graduation. The tags served as a poignant reminder of their enduring bond. The run culminated in a at Gillette Stadium, uniting the 13th Company in tradition and honoring their fallen comrades.

Upcoming 2024 events:

Memorial Day RuN To Honor May 25-27

Committee Leads: **Steve Swift '87**, president@runtohonor.com and **Shannon Webb '04**, secretary@runtohonor.com, for more information or to host an event in your area

*Memorial Day Reading of Names (Live reading of names listed in Memorial Hall)

SHARED INTEREST GROUP

Welcome to the Finance Professional Shared Interest Group

We are excited to announce that we have launched the USNA Finance Professionals SIG at MyUSNA.com

The purpose of the Finance Professionals SIG is to encourage active networking, mentoring and support between USNA Alumni in finance and finance adjacent spaces.

With the depth and breadth of USNA Alumni focused on finance and finance adjacent careers, there is a critical mass of talent and experience for USNA alumni to share amongst each other.

So, please consider joining the Finance Professionals SIG as a member at USNA Finance Professionals SIG |myUSNA.com

To complement this group there is also at LinkedIn a U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Finance Professionals Special Interest Group | Groups | LinkedIn

Our officers are:

President: **Peter Martenson '92**
 Vice President: **Neil Keegan '94**
 Secretary: **Rocky McMurray '92**
 Treasurer: **Greg Calaman '91**

We look forward to seeing you at our virtual and our in-person networking events in 2024!

Committee Leads: **Pat McConnell '02**, vp@runtohonor.com and **Alexa Hunter '04**, and **Sofi Loomis '99**, gear@runtohonor.com

*Honor Our Fallen Heroes in Annapolis, MD Fall 2023 (date TBD) (Memorial Hall service, other activities around a home football game)

Committee Leads: **Alexa Hunter '04**, **Shannon Webb '04**, secretary@runtohonor.com and **Pat McConnell '02**, vp@runtohonor.com

*48th MCM, MCM10K, & MCM50K in Washington D.C. Oct 25-27 (Shindig, run, cheer)

Committee Leads: **Danielle Beier '10**, comms@runtohonor.com and **Steve Swift '87**, president@runtohonor.com

RuN* to Honor is in search of volunteers to assist in coordinating and backing ongoing events, as well as devising new memorial events. If you're interested in joining a RTH committee, reach out to the committee leads listed above.

Follow and share with us at:

www.facebook.com/runtohonor.

Sign up for our email list at:

www.runtohonor.com/mailling-list/.

Learn the stories behind the names in Memorial Hall at:

www.usnamemorialhall.org

Find RTH gear at:

http://runtohonor.bigcartel.com/.

To Honor!



USNA Finance Professionals

Pres: **Peter Martenson '92**
 e: peter.martenson@gmail.co

Sec'y: **Rocky McMurray '92**
 e: rockymcmurray92@gmail.com

2024 NAVY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Follow Navy Football at: navysports.com

31 AUG	vs Bucknell	
7 SEPT	vs Temple	
21 SEPT	vs Memphis	
28 SEPT	@ UAB	
5 OCT	@ Air Force	
19 OCT	vs Charlotte	
26 OCT	vs Notre Dame	East Rutherford, NJ
2 NOV	@ Rice	
9 NOV	@ South Florida	
16 NOV	vs Tulane	
30 NOV	@ East Carolina	Possible Friday 29 Nov
14 DEC	vs Army	Landover, MD

1-800-US4-NAVY

USNA Pride

Pres: Christopher Goodale '17

Vice Pres: Isabel Krause '17

Sec'y: Ally Annick '20

Treas: Lucas Beltran '20

Outreach Officer: Adam Schuman '08

Established in 2022, the USNA Pride SIG is a community of proud LGBTQ+ and allied alumni. Together, we strive to create inclusive friendships, serve as a platform of representation, and build a network of mentorship among our members.

The USNA Pride SIG operates under a three-fold purpose:

i. Create a bond of **community** among USNA LGBTQ+ alumni and allies based on shared experiences while at USNA and within the fleet, enabling the development of inclusive friendships which span USNA classes, geographies and services.

ii. Serve as a platform for LGBTQ+ **representation** within the broader USNA alumni network.

iii. Establish a **network of mentorship** and support for LGBTQ+ alumni who currently serve in the operating forces, and for current LGBTQ+ midshipmen as they prepare to commission.

The USNA Pride SIG embraces the following core values and definitions within our membership:

Inclusivity - Members of the USNA Pride SIG are committed to providing support, recognition, and acceptance to all, regardless of their personal identity.

Positivity - The USNA Pride SIG will strive to create a positive atmosphere of camaraderie, in which participating members will feel uplifted and inspired to connect with others and share their stories.

Character - Members of the USNA Pride SIG are role models. We will represent the LGBTQ+ and Allies community in a positive manner and will set the standard for behavior through our words, actions, and relationships. We are professional, respectful, and honest.

Community - Members of the USNA Pride SIG possess a wealth of experiences and diverse points of view in all aspects of life. Our main commonality is USNA, however we all bring individual strengths that contribute to the group. Our community is inclusive of all members, positive in nature, and strong in character.

Join us for an upcoming event!

- **14 April 2024:** Graduating Firstie Luncheon

* If you're interested in sponsoring a MIDN for shoulder boards or 2nd Lieutenant bars, please reach out to usnapride@gmail.com

- **1 June 2024:** Annapolis Pride!

-USNA Pride will hold its **first elections** this year. Seats up for vote are: Vice-President, Secretary, and Outreach Officer. Email us for more info!



USNA Women Shared Interest Group: First one is a photo from the Sup Change of Command. The second one is from the Alumni Center for the CoC

For alumni interested in joining the SIG, getting involved in our event planning, or running for our board, please email our leadership team at usnapride@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram at @usnapride.

USNA Women

Pres: Linda "Postie" Postenrieder '82
p: 415-235-9413; e: post82@whidbey.com

Vice Pres: Kendra Chappell '94
e: kendrachappell94@gmail.com

Outreach: Gillian Richards '94
e: jillusnawsig@gmail.com

Dozens of alumnae and WSIG members attended and watched the change of command of VADM Yvette Davids '89 as she assumed the responsibilities of Superintendent of the US Naval Academy. Though a very small event in Memorial Hall, alumnae were well represented with all 3 women Directors from the Foundation Board, Trustees from the Alumni Association Board, Trustees from the Athletic and Scholarship Program Board, Women Flag and General Officers, several members of the WSIG Board, invited alumnae guests, the women from the class of '89, and even some women West Point alumnae! It was an honor for the members of WSIG to be present on this truly momentous occasion. The CNO, ADM Franchetti and the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Carlos Del Toro '83 were present to officiate the ceremony for VADM Davids as she took the helm of USNA.

At the Fluegel Alumni Center (FAC), the WSIG orchestrated a watch party with

3 dozen alumnae, alumni, AA&F staff and friends in a room to watch the live stream with other alumnae and WSIG members on a zoom session watching. We thank Isaac Phillips '19 and the staff at the Alumni Association for their assistance with making the watch party happen and for hosting the event in our beautiful home!

We are starting the preparations for the 50 years of USNA women and we are looking for volunteers. Please send Postie an email (post82@whidbey.com) and she will add you to the committee. We look forward to the great collaboration of all of our classes.

The WSIG second Annual Gathering will be held on Saturday, 20 April at 1300 in the FAC. We hope you plan to attend in person. We'll have a zoom session also available to hear about the Board's plans for 2024 and for getting ready for the 50 Years of Women Celebration in 2026. It will be held in conjunction with the 2024 Naval Academy Alumni Leadership Forum at the Fluegel Alumni Center, Annapolis, MD 18-20 April. Join us for both!

Cecily E. Walsh 207-319-4694(C) 9 Steele Ave, Annapolis, MD 21401

UPDATE YOUR PROFILE

Log into **Online Community** at usna.com to update your profile.

LAST CALL

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."
—Laurence Binyon, 1914

William Stewart Berkshire Jr. '45 ■
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
7 January 2024

Francis Avery Packer Jr. '45 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
14 January 2024

Arthur Leon Child III '47 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
31 December 2023

Ralph Hugh Minor '47
5 January 2024

Charles Raymond Miko '48
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
20 January 2024

Robert Burns Pohl '48
23 December 2023

Harry Edward Baumgarten Jr. '49
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
14 December 2023

Robert Octavius Minter Jr. '49
8 January 2024

James Garner Tapp '49 ■
CAPT, SC, USN (Ret.)
3 December 2023

David Adel Ameen '50
30 January 2024

Charles Michael Conlon Jr. '50
LT, USNR (Ret.)
2 January 2024

Burton Richard Weymouth '50 ■
CDR, USN (Ret.)
15 November 2023

Arthur Raymond Wright '50
1 January 2024

Robert Peter Fasulo '51
10 January 2024

Samuel Paul Ginder Jr. '51 ■
6 January 2024

Gulmer Augustus Hines Jr. '51
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
31 January 2024

Charles Arthur Bivenour Jr. '52
17 December 2023

Robert Eugene Buck '52
Maj, USAF (Ret.)
16 December 2023

Raymond Fowler Crist III '52
Capt, USMC (Ret.)
10 March 2022

William John Delaney '52
Col, USAF (Ret.)
7 February 2024

John Paul Fuller '52
15 July 2021

Peter Michael Maloney '52
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
20 January 2024

Billie Don Ott '52
LT, USNR (Ret.)
26 January 2024

Norman Floyd Stein '52
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
4 February 2024

Bosquet Neill Wev Jr. '52 ■
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
19 January 2024

Richard Lowrie Brummage '53 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
21 October 2023

Charles Curtis Carter '53
15 January 2024

Michael Robert Corboy '53
29 January 2024

John Allen Dunaway Jr. '53
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
13 December 2023

Gayle Garrett Stucker Sr. '53 ■
9 January 2024

Carl Lyman Master Jr. '54
CDR, USN (Ret.)
27 January 2024

Ronald Francis McDevitt '54 ■
22 December 2023

Bryce Alexander Mutch Jr. '54
Maj, USMC (Ret.)
16 November 2023

Lee Roy Patterson '54
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
30 December 2023

William Julius Richter Jr. '54
2 January 2024

Joseph John Zable '54
CDR, USN (Ret.)
14 January 2024

Victor Alan Brown '55
3 January 2024

Emil George Riedel Jr. '55
Col, USAF (Ret.)
26 December 2023

Jerry Walter Fallin '56
13 November 2022

Jerry Lee Gibson '56
27 January 2024

Gerry Francis Gossens '56 ■
18 January 2024

Herbert Frazier Hoffman Jr. '56 ■
8 January 2024

Franklin Davis McMullen '56
CDR, SC, USN (Ret.)
27 November 2023

James Patterson Ransom II '56
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
19 January 2024

John Stuckey Wilson '56
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
1 April 2023

William Campbell Jr. '57
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
12 January 2024

Bruce DeMars '57
ADM, USN (Ret.)
3 February 2024

John Lewis Funkhauser '57
Col, USAF (Ret.)
26 January 2024

Joseph Charles Ksycowski '57
20 November 2024

John Stephen McKean Sr. '57
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
27 March 2023

William David Morrison '57
18 September 2023

Edmund John Peresluha II '57
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
3 November 2023

Samuel Abram Belcher III '58
CDR, USN (Ret.)
17 October 2023

Alan Michael Chodorow '58
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
9 January 2024

John Andrew Cresko Jr. '58
10 January 2024

Charles Henry Graham Jr. '58
28 January 2024

Frank Hoback III '58
15 July 1905

Harry Wagner Konkel '58 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
6 January 2024

William Alfred Simmons Jr. '58
CDR, CEC, USN (Ret.)
11 December 2023

Frederick Charles Anderson '59 ■
Col, USAF (Ret.)
30 October 2023

Jacob Boltz '59 ■
CDR, SC, USN (Ret.)
29 December 2023

Robert Lawson Manly '59 ■
1 January 2024

Sylvester William McCall Jr. '59
22 December 2021

Jerry Patrick McDaniel '59
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
21 January 2024

Paul Daniel O'Connor Jr. '59
14 January 2024

Dennis Spencer Read '59
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
25 January 2024

Regis Hyland Rheb '59
15 January 2020

Fred Austin Bee '60
13 January 2024

Francis Richard Rapasky '60
21 December 2023

Robert Eugene Tucker Jr. '60 ■
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
16 December 2023



■ *Obituary appears in this issue*

This list consists of alumni deaths we have learned of since our last issue. Full obituaries will appear in Last Call if/when families send them in.

Charles Roland Denney Jr. '61 •
21 December 2023

George Harness Dewhirst '61
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
9 December 2023

Richard Wehunt Michaux '61
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
10 January 2024

Sam Tompkins Walter Jr. '61
31 December 2023

Keith Francis Wood '61
7 January 2024

Paul Lawrence Callahan '62
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
21 December 2023

Stephen Kent Chadwick '62 •
RADM, USN (Ret.)
18 January 2024

David Clarence English '62
11 January 2024

Graham Hall '62
28 January 2024

James Allen Marshall '62
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
7 February 2024

Joseph Guydon Procopio '62
CDR, USN (Ret.)
22 December 2023

Phillip Harding Taylor '62
22 December 2023

John Patrick Michael Burns Jr. '63
13 November 2023

Joseph Michael Favor '63
Col, USMCR (Ret.)
4 February 2024

Jon Andrew Helstrom '63
2 December 2023

David Nelson Hull '63 •
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
2 December 2023

Emil Mark Schwing '63
CDR, USN (Ret.)
25 January 2024

Douglas Boyd Cutter '64
CAPT, USNR (Ret.)
29 December 2023

Lewis Raymond Newby '64
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
26 January 2024

Robert George Schick '64
9 January 2024

Lloyd Enoch Williams '64
20 January 2024

Hugh Reeves Adair '65
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
1 February 2024

Gilbert Commodore Crouse Jr. '65
12 December 2023

Roger Lewis Demaris '65
13 August 2023

William Albert Farnsworth Jr. '65
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
20 December 2023

Edward Bradley Merino '65
23 December 2023

Kenneth Kinard Miles '65
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
24 January 2024

Eric Peter Morrissette '65
6 December 2023

Douglas Roger Powell '65 •
13 September 2023

Donald Vernon Colley '66
CAPT, USN
17 November 2023

Lawrence Joseph Early Jr. '66
24 January 2024

James Edward Koons '66 •
13 December 2023

Douglas Edward May '66
7 December 2023

William Allison Wood '66 •
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
15 January 2024

Robert Werner Bagwell '67
16 January 2024

Christopher Gleason Gates '67
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
26 December 2023

Frederick John Geiger '67
20 December 2023

Wilding Green Harris Jr. '67
5 February 2024

Pleasant Lawrence Murphy Jr. '67
9 January 2024

David Charles Beard '68
Maj, USMC (Ret.)
20 January 2024

Michael Laird Lagow '68
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
27 November 2023

Dennis Kwock Hung Young '68
12 December 2023

Robert Glenn Kokstein '69
19 January 2024

William Joseph Laz '69 •
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
4 January 2024

John Howard Strauss '69
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
26 January 2024

Thomas John Wandishin '69
22 January 2024

John Quinton Dewitt Jr. '70
7 January 2024

Frederic George Krapf III '70 •
20 August 2023

William Lloyd Hatcher III '71
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
10 August 2023

Robert Alan Holbach '71
9 January 2024

H. Leland Whitfield III '71
5 January 2024

Richard Henry Jacobs '72
27 December 2023

Daniel Martin McHale Sr. '73
15 December 2023

Michael Eugene Little '74
8 January 2024

Daniel Patrick Mays '74
21 December 2023

Thomas Richard Morse '74 •
13 January 2024

James Bernard Epps '76
24 December 2023

David Thomas Kerrick '76 •
Col, USMC (Ret.)
13 December 2023

Craig Charles Scott '76
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
9 February 2024

Francis John Wysocki '76
Maj, USMC (Ret.)
5 February 2024

Harold Hicks Casey '77
17 December 2023

Terry Lane Wilton '77 •
LCDR, USN (Ret.)
15 January 2024

Peter James Koufos '79
LTJG, SC, USN (Ret.)
8 December 2023

John Michael Foertch '81
17 December 2023

Michael John Keating '83
CDR, USN (Ret.)
26 January 2024

Harry Paul Ward '84 •
LtCol, USMC (Ret.)
16 December 2023

Michael John Ottinger '85 •
CAPT, USN (Ret.)
18 December 2023

Paul Patrick Hagerty Jr. '87
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
23 January 2024

Thomas Joseph Gaffney '88
5 February 2024

Gregory Leigh Farley '89
13 November 2022

Brian Llewellyn Davies '91
RADM, USN
30 December 2023

Donald Jerry Lane '92
Col, USAF (Ret.)
23 December 2023

John Thomas Mattioli Jr. '93
19 December 2023

John James Skelly '93
15 January 2024

Patrick Walsh Skora '02 •
CDR, USNR (Ret.)
20 December 2023

Douglas Michael Morea '04
CDR, USNR
2 January 2024

Miguel Justin Nava '17
Capt, USMC
7 February 2024

Jose Luis Resendez '19 •
LT, USN
4 January 2024

Mason Carter Halsey '24
MIDN, USN
1 January 2024



WILLIAM STEWART BERKSHIRE JR. '45
Lieutenant Commander W.S. Berkshire Jr., USN (Ret.), passed away on 7 January 2024.

"Stewart" was born in El Paso, TX, on 30 December 1923 to Elizabeth Sarah (Barricklow) and Stewart Berkshire Sr. In 1933, his father moved to Washington, DC, and the family soon followed. Stewart graduated from Western High School in 1941 and a month later, was sworn in as a midshipman at the Naval Academy. He graduated in 1944 with the wartime accelerated Class of 1945.

His career in the Navy started as supply and disbursing officer on *DAVID W. TAYLOR* (DD-551) in the Pacific, participating in the second Battle of the Philippine Sea and the occupation of Japan. At the end of the war, Stewart was supply officer of SubGroup One of the Pacific Reserve Fleet. He next was assigned to the Navy Department in Washington, DC; Pearl Harbor, HI; Albuquerque, NM; *WINDHAM BAY* (T-CVE-92) in the Pacific as supply officer; the Naval Postgraduate School; NAS Alameda; and Western Transport Air Force, Travis AFB, CA, as logistics officer.

Upon his retirement in 1964, Stewart moved to San Jose, CA, to pursue advanced education. He obtained an MBA degree from San Jose State University and a PHD from Santa Clara University.

In 1944, he married Jane Dollarhide of Washington, DC, and they had two outstanding daughters, Susan Yourd and Elizabeth Sarah Rech. He and Jane divorced in 1970.

In 1971, Stewart married Betty Van Treese Wellington in San Jose. Betty brought to the family four fine children, Kathryn Dianne Wellington, David Stewart Wellington, Julie Ann Wellington and Patricia Jean Ary and they were as dear to Stewart as his own.

They moved to Costa Mesa, CA, when Stewart was appointed to the faculty of California State University at Long Beach, where he taught accounting until retiring in 1987.

They moved to Newport Beach, CA, where they lived for 17 wonderful years, followed by several years in Kailua-Kona, HI, before returning to Santa Ana, and finally, to The Terraces of Los Gatos, CA.

Betty and Stewart enjoyed traveling across the U.S. (including Hawaii and Alaska) and Canada. They volunteered in various charitable jobs and were active in the Presbyterian Church. They were blessed to have loved and been loved by both families.

WSB Jr. '45 ★



FRANCIS AVERY PACKER JR. '45
Commander Francis A. Packer Jr., USN (Ret.), died peacefully on 14 January 2024 in New Providence, NJ. He was 100 years old.

"Tod" was born on 21 May 1923, in San Diego, CA, to Bernice (Duncan) and Francis Avery Packer Sr. As his father was a naval officer, Tod grew up all over the world, including in China, Mexico and the Philippines. Tod joined the Naval Academy in June 1941, where he was a proud member of the Class of 1945. The wartime class graduated one year early in June 1944. He

saw duty in the Pacific on *INDIANA* in 1945, and his battleship was in the Bay of Tokyo in August 1945 when the articles of surrender were signed. He completed a master's degree in marine engineering at MIT in 1948.

While stationed in Boston in the early 1950s, Tod met Barbara Kraft and they married in July 1951 in Montclair, NJ. They were married for 66 years until Barbara's passing in 2017.

During his naval career, Tod worked in the Norfolk, VA, Naval Shipyard; in the ship squadron in San Diego; in Jacksonville, FL; in Annapolis, MD; and at the Bureau of Ships in Washington, DC.

After his retirement from the Navy in 1967, Tod joined the shipbuilding program of Esso International (now known as Exxon), which took him and his family to New Canaan, CT, Genoa, Italy, Kobe, Japan, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, and finally Summit, NJ. Tod retired from Exxon in 1983, and

thereafter taught mathematics at local high schools and at Kean College of New Jersey.

Tod and Barbara served on the vestry of Calvary Church in Summit, where they also headed up the annual blood drive for 16 years. In 2010, the Episcopal Diocese recognized the couple with an award for their leadership in lay activity.

Tod traced his family roots to officers in George Washington's army. In the 1960s, Tod became a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, Connecticut Chapter, and subsequently served as chapter president for several years.

He leaves behind his children, Deborah Packer Mumm, Judith Packer Jesudason and Francis Avery Packer III; grandchildren, Andy, Laura, Adam, Charles and Henry; and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Barbara; younger brother, Captain Duncan Packer '47; and grandson, Aaron.

A memorial service took place in Calvary Church on 24 February 2024, followed by inurnment, together with Barbara, at the Naval Academy Columbarium, with full military honors. ★



ARTHUR LEON CHILD III '47

Captain Arthur L. Child, USN (Ret.), died on 31 December 2023 at Paradise Valley Estates in Fairfield, CA. He was 101 years old.

Born in Grinnell, IA, "Dan" spent his teenage years in California, where he enlisted in the Navy on his 18th birthday, 28 May 1940. Before entering the Naval Academy, he served on the battleships *OKLAHOMA* and *NORTH CAROLINA*. After attending the Naval Academy Preparatory School (NAPS), he became a member of the Class of 1947, graduating in June 1946, as a

member of the 17th Company.

Upon graduation, he attended the Navy Supply Corps School and subsequently served in four ships: *OZBOURN* (DD-846), *STICKELL* (DD-888), *BUSHNELL* (AS-15) and *BRYCE CANYON* (AD-25). Ashore, he served in Japan, China, Key West, Puerto Rico, Washington, DC, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Long Beach, San Diego and Hawaii. He served in Vietnam in the 1968-1969 period and was awarded a Legion of Merit with a Combat V for service at Naval Support Activity, Da Nang.

He earned a master's degree in management from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1961.

After retirement, he did postgraduate work in theater arts at California State University, Long Beach. Completing the two-year program, he spent some 20 years directing community theater productions in California and Pensacola, FL.

Always a constant reader, he also loved travel, and over time he visited every continent, every state in the Union, and at least two thirds of the world's countries.

He was predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Thursia May "Sue" Irish Child, in April 2002; and two sons, Charles Christopher Child, killed in Vietnam in October 1969, and Arthur Anthony Child, killed in a traffic accident in December 1977.

In November 2002, Arthur married Patricia Crawford Orme, a close childhood friend from high school in North Hollywood, CA. She passed away in August 2014.

Dan is survived by his third wife, Sylvia Brandwick, a former enlisted Marine and Army officer; three sons (and their wives), Steven Child (Joyce Mortensen Child), Michael Child (Anita Miller Child) and Peter Child (Tami Child); eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. ★

MEMORIAL AFFAIRS RESOURCES

usna.com/memorial-affairs



JAMES GARNER TAPP '49

Captain James G. Tapp, USN (Ret.), passed away on 3 December 2023 in La Jolla, CA, at the age of 98. His wife of 72 years, Patricia "Pat" Tapp, 94 years old, had passed away three days earlier and Jim didn't want her to be alone.

"Jim" was born in Buford, GA, and upon graduation from high school there, he served 15 months of enlisted service in the Signal Corps before entering the Naval Academy in 1945. Jim was commissioned to service in the

Navy Supply Corps as an ensign in 1949.

He served for 33 years, both abroad and stateside with afloat assignments during the Korean and Vietnam wars. His last assignment was as officer-in-charge of Naval Regional Procurement Office in Long Beach, CA.

In 1973, Jim retired from the Navy and accepted the position of purchasing agent for the County of San Diego, which he did for 15 years.

Retirement for Jim and Pat was glorious in La Jolla, CA, where they both thrived as civic volunteers and active members of La Jolla Country Club. When they finally slowed down, they sold their home and moved to the vibrant retirement community of Vi at La Jolla. They enjoyed their new home there for ten years before passing ... together.

Jim and Pat will be buried at Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery, surrounded by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Tapp Family ★



BURTON RICHARD WEYMOUTH '50

Commander Burton R. Weymouth, USN (Ret.), 96, died on 15 November 2023 of acute kidney failure and Covid.

Burton was born on 7 November 1927 in Hopedale, MA, to Currier Clyde Weymouth and Edna Andrews (Yeaton) Weymouth. Burton moved to Farmington, ME, when he was four years old and graduated from Farmington High School in 1945. He was active in basketball, track (State Champions in 1945) and skiing.

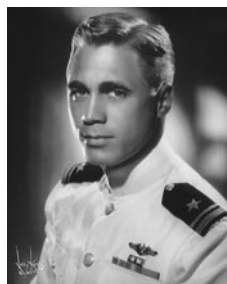
He attended the University of Maine at Orono

for one year before reporting to the Naval Academy. While at Annapolis, he participated in golf, basketball, rifle and other intramural sports. He graduated from USNA in June 1950 with a BS degree and was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy.

His first tour was to the Naval Air Training Command in Pensacola, FL. He completed flight training in 1952. Subsequent tours consisted of assignments to operating squadrons of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet located in the United States. Overseas deployments included Iceland, Europe, North Africa and Japan during the Korean War. He served onboard several aircraft carriers as a member of the ship's crew and as a pilot, and also had several Intelligence tours, including the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Office of Naval Intelligence. As a Navy pilot, he was experienced in anti-submarine operations and search and rescue missions and was qualified in many fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft.

Burton retired from the Navy in June 1974 and returned to his family home in Freeman, ME. He was a substitute teacher, then joined Old Post Office Realty in Strong, ME. An avid woodworker, he spent many years restoring the Weymouth Family Homestead. He was an active volunteer at Franklin Memorial Hospital, where he had been chairman of the board of trustees for three years. He and his wife, Lucile, enjoyed playing golf. They spent summers at New England courses and winter months in Pensacola, FL, where they could continue their golf and travel to historic places. Burton was active in the Episcopal Church and served on several church committees in Florida and Maine. He was an active member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Rangeley, ME.

Predeceased by his wife, Lucile, in May 2015, he is survived by their daughter, Diane; son, Douglas (Laurie); grandson Andrew (Alexé); and great-granddaughters, Lallie Beth, Madeleine and Léa. He was also predeceased by his half-brother, George William Yeaton. ★



SAMUEL PAUL GINDER JR. '51

Samuel P. Ginder Jr. passed away on 6 January 2024.

"Sam" was born to Ferdie Williamson and RADM Samuel P. Ginder Sr. '16 in Coronado, CA, on 23 November 1929 into a Navy family. He graduated from the Naval Academy in 1951, following his father and uncles, RADM John Ginder '23 and VADM Thomas Combs '20.

After graduation, Sam served aboard WISCONSIN (BB-64) during the Korean War and qualified in submarines in 1954 while serving

aboard SENNET. He married CJ Hirsch on 1 May 1955.

Sam left the Navy in 1958 to join Vitro Laboratories as a system engineer and project manager on the Polaris Ballistic Missile System, followed by Polaris/Poseidon weapon systems for LAFAYETTE-class submarines. He joined Dunlap Associates, supporting U.S. Air Force logistics and contingency planning operations. He managed the design of an automated information system supporting USAID's work in Third World nations.

At IBM's Federal Systems Division, he worked with DOD computer systems, facilitating the transfer of DOD hardware and software to state and local governments, and in Sonar Systems Marketing at IBM's Shipboard and Defense Systems plant. Sam received IBM's 1979 President's Award for outstanding marketing performance.

In 1981, Sam became Vice President of Business Development for Presearch Incorporated. In 1985, he formed the Advanced Programs Development (APD) Group, providing marketing and proposal preparation services to defense contractors. He retired in 1994.

Sam earned an MEA from The George Washington University, and a MALS from Georgetown University, reflecting his love of philosophy, history of the ancient world and creative writing. He published five novels, a biography and three special TV production scripts. He taught computer systems at the American University Center for Technology, and computer graphics at Montgomery College.

Sam was on the board of directors of his Naval Academy class, and served as vice president, secretary and corresponding secretary. He was editor of the 1951-2001 *Lucky Bag*, the 50th Reunion Book and executive producer of a video history of the Class of 1951. Sam was a member of the Navy League, USNA Alumni Association, Army and Navy Club, Naval Submarine League, Naval Institute and the Military Order of the Carabao.

Sam is survived by his beloved wife of almost 70 years, CJ Ginder; daughter, Janie Allen (Bruce); and granddaughter, Kimberley Allen. His daughter, Nancy, died in 1983.

Please direct memorials to the Nancy Elizabeth Ginder Memorial Scholarship at Frostburg State University (<https://frostburg.academicworks.com/donors/ginder>). Questions? Contact Liz Nelson at (eanelson@frostburg.edu) or 301-697-4438. ★



JEROME RAPKIN '52

Captain Jerome Rapkin, USN (Ret.), passed away in Annapolis, MD, on 24 September 2023. He was 94 years old.

"Jerry" was the son of Harry and Ida Rapkin of Rehoboth Beach, DE. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy with the Class of 1952.

After graduation, Jerry served aboard several ships before becoming CO of CLAUDE V. RICKETTS (DDG-5) and ComDesRon 26. He held a MSEE degree from the Naval Postgraduate School with specialties in financial management, acquisition management and weapon systems engineering.

During his several tours in Washington, DC, he served as business manager of the Aegis Weapons System; program manager of Ship Self-Defense; comptroller of NavOrd; head of Surface Warfare, NavSea; and budget director of NavMat.

Upon retiring from the U.S. Navy in 1979, he was employed by the Gould, Inc. - Ocean Systems Division as vice president of program

management and engineering development for undersea weapons. Further industry experience included operating various defense related companies as senior vice president and COO. Prior to leaving industry, he was president and CEO of Breakwater Development Corporation.

Jerry has held several positions with civic associations. Jerry served as president of two major Navy League councils and completed 15 years as a Navy League national officer. He was the recipient of the Secretary of the Navy's Superior Public Service Award. He was a National Director Emeritus and is in the Navy League Hall of Fame. He completed three years as a trustee of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association; was on the board of directors of his local MOAA chapter. Jerry served as president of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Class of '52.

He resided in Annapolis and is survived by his wife, Janet; son, Keith (Mary); daughters, Leigh (Stephen) and Paige (Steven); and grandson, Kevin.

A celebration of life was held at the Naval Academy Columbarium.

Memorial donations may be made to the Naval Academy Foundation online at (www.usna.com/give) or by phone at 410-295-4115. ★



BOSQUET NEILL WEV JR. '52

Lieutenant Commander B.N. Wev Jr., USN (Ret.), 94, passed away on 19 January 2024 in Fredericksburg, VA.

Born in Baltimore, MD, "Biscuit" was the son of Rear Admiral B.N. Wev '27 and Elizabeth (Robinson). He entered Bancroft via a presidential appointment after prepping at Severn School. At USNA, he was crew team coxswain (Plebe year), a dinghy sailor (Youngster year) and managed the dinghy team his last two years. Biscuit also served as

company representative for *The Log*.

Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Navy ensign and married his Academy OAO, Anne "Petey" Campbell Armistead. Biscuit excelled as a submarine officer. His 20-year career in the Silent Service included the submarines MANTA, CLAMAGORE, SEA CAT and SEA LEOPARD (as XO).

Shore assignments included teaching sonar systems to U.S. and international students in Key West, FL, and a support assignment in Millington, TN. In 1962, he joined JAMES MONROE (SSBN-622) under construction in Newport News. Biscuit served as navigator (Blue) on his first nuclear powered submarine, enjoying deployments to Rota, Spain, and Holy Loch, Scotland. His final assignments were on the staff of Submarine Forces, Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, VA, and the Pentagon, retiring in 1972.

His civilian years were spent as a contractor in the Washington, DC, area. Petey and Biscuit enjoyed 20 years in Arlington, VA. They were active members at Grace Episcopal Church and St. Anne's Episcopal Church, where Biscuit served as junior warden for many years. As a USNA Alumni Association member and '52 Class president, he was an enthusiastic supporter at home football games. He shared his love for the Midshipmen and Redskins and was known for his extensive Blue & Gold and Burgundy & Gold wardrobe. In 1984, Petey and Biscuit moved to Annapolis, where they enjoyed many years of boating on the Chesapeake and entertaining family and friends. Sailing aboard Holland America lines with the Jazz Cruise kept them busy for many years.

Bosquet was predeceased by his parents; wife, Anne; and infant son, "Little Bis." He is survived by four children: Anne (Jim), Elizabeth (Pat), Diane (Dave) and Alex (Chellie); seven grandchildren who knew him as "Gramps" and "Wix;" seven great-grandchildren; and his sister, Connie.

Services and inurnment took place at the Naval Academy.

Memorial donations may be directed to the Naval Academy Foundation (www.usna.com/give).

Along with the rest of his 1952 Classmates, he leaves behind "tough shoes to fill."

Well done, good and faithful servant. ★



RICHARD LOWRIE BRUMMAGE '53

Captain Richard L. Brummage, USN (Ret.), of Solana Beach, CA, passed away at the age of 92 on 21 October 2023.

Born in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1931, he was the oldest child of Richard Lee Brummage and Mary Barton Brummage. His younger sisters, Deirdre and Mary, arrived a few years later. Richard's parents worked hard to provide a good life for their family during the Great Depression, and they moved frequently. By the time he was 17 years old, Richard had attended 11 different schools in New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. He then entered the Naval Academy, where he developed lifelong friendships and graduated in 1953.

In 1955, Richard earned his Wings of Gold in Pensacola, FL, and became a naval aviator. A few months later, he met Hazel Wydelle "Delle" Lee and they were married in Fort Worth, TX. Their son, Ken, was born in 1956, and their daughter, Carole, was born in 1960.

Richard and Delle learned to navigate military life masterfully as tours of duty took their family from Texas to New Jersey to Rhode Island to California to Florida to Virginia, then back to California, Rhode Island, Virginia, California and Virginia again.

Richard flew sorties all over the world—into the Northern Lights of the Arctic Circle, off the coast of Florida during the Cuban Missile Crisis, off the coast of Vietnam and elsewhere. He lived—and landed—aboard many aircraft carriers, including YORKTOWN and TRIPOLI. He commanded large squadrons and concluded his naval career at the Pentagon.

Richard was a lifelong learner, earning advanced degrees from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, the Naval War College in Newport, RI, and The George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Captain Brummage retired from the Navy after 26 years of service. He and Delle moved back to San Diego, where he began a second career in the aerospace industry.

Richard and Delle were active in their retirement, traveling to Scotland, England, Belgium, France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Greece, Argentina and other destinations.

Predeceased by Delle in 2012, Richard is survived by their children, Ken and Carole; his sister, Mary Brummage Pease; and extended family. They were also the proud grandparents of Kenneth Lee Brummage and Kyra Elizabeth Brummage.

Richard and Delle will be interred together at Miramar National Cemetery on 29 March 2024.

Memorial donations may be made to Reading Legacies (<https://readinglegacies.org>) or Shriner's Hospitals for Children (www.shrinerschildrens.org). ★



THOMAS WILLIAM SCHAAF '53

Commander Thomas W. Schaaf, USN (Ret.), 96, passed away peacefully in Williamsburg, VA, while under hospice care on 4 November 2023.

"Tom" was born in 1927 in Germantown, PA, and at age 17, was accepted into the Naval Aviation Cadet program, where he earned his Wings and a commission in the Naval Reserve. After World War II, most junior officers were discharged, but luckily, an air wing commander helped him obtain a Naval Academy appointment. On graduation day, he married Phyllis Curran.

They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in 2023.

In 1962, Tom's carrier group helped enforce the Cuban Missile Crisis blockade. In 1964, he was the Sixth Fleet Strike Group Commander's aide, during which time he escorted an array of flagship visitors, including Olivia de Havilland, Sophia Loren, Princess Grace of Monaco, Elizabeth Taylor, John Wayne and William Holden. In 1965, Tom earned a master's degree at the Naval War College and a year later, was assigned to the Navy's Pentagon office for Strategic Nuclear Plans. While on a monthly jet proficiency training flight out of Andrews AFB, the engine of the T-1 he

and another pilot were flying failed immediately after takeoff. Both pilots ejected successfully.

In 1967, Tom became executive officer of VA-93, which deployed in January 1968 on BON HOMME RICHARD, flying A-4 Skyhawks. Halfway through this tour, the squadron commander was killed, and Tom assumed command. He served as CO for the remainder of that deployment and during a second combat tour on RANGER, this time flying A-7 Corsairs. In 1969, Tom embarked on a third combat deployment on CORAL SEA as air boss. During these deployments, Tom earned the Distinguished Flying Cross (2), Air Medal (19) and Navy Commendation Medal (3). Phyllis also served as leader for the families back home, keeping morale high and comforting the families of squadron mates who never returned from the war.

After retirement, Tom earned a master's degree from The George Washington University; served as a ship building advisor at the national headquarters for Ronald Reagan's 1980 and 1984 presidential campaigns; and was a team member, led by retired Admiral Thomas Moorer, to repurpose former Soviet ballistic missiles for civilian satellite launches.

Tom is survived by his wife, Phyllis; their five sons, Tom Jr., John, Stephen, Paul and Andrew; daughter, Mary Ellen; 16 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Burial will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a time yet to be determined. ★



RONALD FRANCIS McDEVITT '54

"Frank" McDevitt of Pocono Pines, PA, passed away on 22 December 2023 at home, surrounded by his loving family. He was 91 years old.

Born in 1932 in Washington, DC, he was the son of the late Elmer and Ruth (née Junker) McDevitt.

Upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1954, Frank joined the Navy destroyer fleet, serving on FLOYD B. BARKS and was part of the commissioning crew of JOHN

PAUL JONES. He was selected for the submarine force and served on SENNET. He completed his naval service as a lieutenant commander in SEA LION.

Following his military service, Frank's civilian career included executive leadership roles in the Singer Company, Poloron, Con Edison and Merrin Electric, followed by a return to government service as Director of Fleet Support for the U.S. Military Sealift Command.

Frank spent his retirement years in Pocono Pines, PA, where he was honored to actively contribute his time to several local community organizations. His favorite pastimes included spending time with family and friends, domestic and international travel, skiing, golf, fishing, jigsaw puzzles, reading, watching football and giving back to his local community in any capacity and as frequently as possible.

Frank was the beloved husband of the late Patricia (née Nolan) McDevitt; loving father of Anne McDevitt, Maureen Jensen (Randy), John McDevitt (Gloria), Sheila Speckin (Kim Knight), Paul McDevitt (Kristin Evins), Elise Nolan (Craig); proud grandfather of Nolan Jensen, Katelynn Jensen, Jessica McDevitt, Connor McDevitt, Zachary McDevitt, Ryleigh McDevitt, Steven Speckin, Sean Speckin and Katrina Botelho; and great-grandfather of Charlotte Speckin. Frank was predeceased by his children, Mary and Timothy McDevitt.

A Funeral Mass took place at St. Maximilian Kolbe Roman Catholic Church in Pocono Pines, PA, on 29 December 2023. Interment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are requested to any of these charities, all of which were very close to Frank's heart: Pocono Lions Club (www.poconolions.org), American Legion (www.legion.org), Pocono Submarine Veterans (www.poconosubvets.org), Disabled American Veterans (www.dav.org), St. Maximilian Kolbe R.C. Church (www.stmaxkolbepoconos.org), Lake Naomi Club (www.lakenaomclub.com) or Lehigh Valley Home Health & Hospice Services (www.lvhn.org). ★



GAYLE GARRETT STUCKER SR. '53

Gayle G. Stucker Sr. passed away peacefully of natural causes on 9 January 2024 in Annapolis, MD.

Gayle was born in Louisville, KY, on 11 June 1929 to the late Harold Lee Stucker Sr. and Emma Lee Stucker of Louisville, KY. He graduated from Kiser High School in Dayton, OH, in 1947 and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. During his service, he obtained a Secretary of the Navy appointment to the Naval Academy, attended NAPS and graduated with the USNA Class of

1953. While deployed to Okinawa, Japan, Gayle competed in Olympic rifle and pistol pre-trials.

Gayle married Edith Ann "Edie" Tucker of Annapolis, MD, in 1954. After serving four years, Gayle resigned his commission as a Marine first lieutenant and obtained employment with IBM. He served 34 years with IBM as a field engineer.

After his retirement from IBM, Gayle was active in Heritage Baptist Church serving as a deacon, trustee and Sunday school teacher. He also served as an assistant in the Heritage Learning Center Preschool. Other activities he enjoyed were volunteering for Habitat for Humanity; taking a lead role in sponsoring a Bosnian refugee family whom he helped get employment, housing and their American citizenship; serving on the board of directors for Langton Green Inc (a non-profit organization for adults with developmental disabilities); and was active in Rotary's Books for International Goodwill. Additional hobbies included running marathons, bicycling, Lego robotics, woodcarving, honeybees, golf, homemade pizza and biscotti, and reading.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Harold Stucker Jr. of Louisville, KY, and Richard Stucker of Pageland, SC. Gayle is survived by his wife of 69 years, Edie; two children, Karen Edith Johnson (Steven Wayne '75) of Brookeville, MD, and Gayle Garrett Stucker Jr. of Lake Ridge, VA; four grandchildren, Cheryl Ann Machi (Marty Paul), Erin Nicole Dyer (Bryan Patrick), Matthew Wayne Johnson and Kyle Garrett Stucker; and two great-grandchildren, Rex Christian Machi and Riley Elle Dyer.

Funeral services were held at Heritage Baptist Church in Annapolis, MD, on 25 January 2024, followed by interment at Maryland Veterans Cemetery in Crownsville, MD.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Gayle's name to B.I.G Books at Suite B, 451 Defense Highway, Annapolis, MD 21401 (www.big-books.org) or Heritage Baptist Church, 1740 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401 (www.heritageloves.com). ★



DONALD JAMES MEYER '54

Captain Donald J. Meyer, USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 13 March 2022 in Vero Beach, FL.

"Don" was born on 2 December 1929 in Rochester, NY, to George Earl and Gertrude Schickler Meyer. In 1947, Don graduated from Aquinas Institute and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He attended the Naval Academy Preparatory School prior to his appointment to the Naval Academy. He graduated with the Class of 1954, 11th Company, and later earned advanced

degrees in International Affairs at the Naval War College and The George Washington University.

Don served at sea on ARNED (AKA-56), ARGONAUT (SS-475), CUBERA (SS-347) and GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN-598), and commanded REQUIN (SS-481) and CUTLASS (SS-478). Shore tours included ComSubRon 63, GMS Dam Neck, ComSubLant, EastLant NATO London, the Pentagon and ROTC Unit commanding officer and professor of naval science at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Following his naval service, Don continued to contribute to the community and our nation as a leader in the Rotary Club of Virginia Beach and Rotary International, where he led the Group Study Exchange Team. Don made an equally significant and lasting impact as founding member and captain of the Marine Stranding Team for the Virginia

LAST CALL

Marine Science Museum, which has now responded to thousands of stranded marine mammals and sea turtles.

In the 1990s, Don met Sally. They were married and enjoyed life centered on family and friends in Virginia Beach, VA, and Vero Beach, FL.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Mary Theresa Kinney; and five of his six siblings. He is survived by his wife and dearest friend, Sally Hommell Meyer of Virginia Beach and Vero Beach; his sister, Joyce McCabe; his children, Elizabeth K. Meyer, Paul K. Meyer, Maureen H. Meyer and Daniel P. Meyer; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; stepchildren, Cheryl L. Travelstead and Robert B. Potts; and three step-grandchildren.

His classmates, family and friends will remember Don as a true gentleman. A caring, warm-hearted man who was kind and gracious to everyone he met. He was a dedicated Christian, a thoroughly professional naval officer and a daring submariner.

A memorial service and burial in Arlington National Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Memorials in Don's name may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project (www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org/donate). ★



GEORGE VALENTINE ZEBERLEIN JR. '54

Captain George V. Zeberlein, USN (Ret.), passed away on 29 August 2023 in McLean, VA.

Born on 9 January 1930 in Baltimore, MD, he was the son of George and Constance Zeberlein. He attended two years of college at the University of Maryland, entering the United States Naval Academy in 1950. At Annapolis, he was active in sports and excelled on the wrestling team. Upon graduation with the Class of 1954, George was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy and married Joan

Marrie of Lancaster, PA.

Over his 30-year career as a Supply Corps officer, some favorite tours of duty were as captain of the supply depot in Guam and his final three-year tour as supply officer for the Naval Academy.

Retirement in Annapolis allowed George and Joan to remain active in the USNA Alumni Association and they became fixtures at Navy sports, the Chapel, arts and music events, and various social events. In addition, they hosted family and friends for many holidays over the years at their home on Weems Creek in Annapolis near Navy-Marine Corps Stadium.

A loving father, grandfather, uncle, brother and great-grandfather, George received the most joy from his family, and enjoyed a long and blessed life, which has left a legacy for his family. George and Joan's family extended to the many friends they gathered together throughout their Navy career and retirement years.

Predeceased by his beloved wife, Joan (2022), George is survived by their four children, Patricia (Bill), Pamela (Manny), Thomas and Curtis (Joan); eight grandchildren, Jennifer, Allison, Jeffrey, Erik, Emily, Winston, Mason and Ainsley; great-grandchildren, Zoe and Skylar; his brothers, Robert and Thomas; and sister, Ann. He was predeceased by his parents; brother, James; and baby son, George.

A celebration of his life, including funeral services and interment of his ashes, was celebrated at the Naval Academy Chapel and Columbarium on 13 November 2023.

The Zeberlein Family ★



GERRY FRANCIS GOSENS '56

Gerry F. Gossens died on 18 January 2024, in Middlebury, VT. A man for every possible season and a world traveler, Gerry kept his family laughing, loving and together for a lifetime.

Gerry was dedicated to the service of his country and fellow humans. Born in Texas in 1933, he moved to Beirut in 1947, when his father took a job with the Trans-Arabian Pipeline. As a high schooler in Beirut, Gerry met his first wife, Nancy James. A true Cold Warrior,

Gerry entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1952 and graduated with the Class of 1956.

He then joined the U.S. Air Force as a pilot and intelligence officer before transferring to the Central Intelligence Agency in 1960. He remained with the CIA until 1984, serving as Chief of Station in multiple postings across Africa before closing his career as Deputy Chief of Station in Paris.

In his "retirement" in Vermont, Gerry served on the Salisbury Selectboard in the Vermont State House of Representatives, on the University of Vermont Board of Directors and in the Vermont State Senate. He also met and married his second wife, Margaret "Betsy" Strolle.

Gerry was predeceased by his first wife, Nancy, and his three siblings, Charlotte Mitchell, Phillip Gossens and Peter Gossens. He is survived by his wife, Betsy; his three children, Jim (Daniry), Christine (Bob Price) and Joanne Gossen (Beth Sanclemente); two stepsons, Carl (Adriane) and Tom (Kate); and eight grandchildren, Michael, David, Sam, Carlo, Owen, Ed, Max and Vivian.

A life well-lived and a great loss, not just to family and friends, but to all. ★



HERBERT FRAZIER HOFFMAN JR. '56

"Herb" Hoffman died peacefully while living in a senior community in Frederick, MD, on 8 January 2024. He was 89 years old.

Herb graduated with honors from Episcopal Academy in 1952 and entered the Naval Academy that same year. While at Annapolis, he sailed four years with the varsity sailing team. His love of sailing continued throughout his life, sailing with his wife, family and friends locally and in the British Virgin Islands. Upon graduation, he became a naval aviator, fulfilling

his boyhood dream.

After his obligated service, Herb joined Dupont, but his love of flying lured him into commercial aviation with Eastern Airlines, where he remained until the demise of the company. He completed his aviation career as a consultant for the FAA. In his retirement years, his love for flying continued and he became an ultralight pilot.

Herb loved travel and after retiring, he and his wife, Sue, took many trips to National Parks across the country in their motor home. They also took many trips to Europe and traveled with the family, as well. He had the traveling spirit and even when this was no longer possible, he continued dreaming of faraway places.

He will be remembered by classmates and friends as fun loving, considerate of others and totally open and honest about his convictions.

Herb often said that he was most proud of raising his four children with his wife, Sue. In addition to his wife of 67 wonderful years, Susanne, he is survived by their daughter, Nancy Hennessey; three sons, Jeffrey, Scott and John; six grandchildren, Lauren, Megan, Teddy, Devon, John and Sam; and two nephews, Kenneth and Ross Sormani.

A memorial service will be planned in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, MD (www.cbmm.org); or All Saints Episcopal Church in Frederick, MD (www.allsaintsm.org). Please note "In memory of Herbert Hoffman." ★



WAYNE MIDDLETON WILLS '56

Major Wayne M. Wills, USMC (Ret.), died on 6 September 2023 in Sandy Springs, GA, at the age of 92.

Wayne was born in Jackson, MS, to William and Frances Wills on 6 February 1931 and attended Millsaps College prior to enlisting in the Army, where he served for four years. He entered the Naval Academy and became a member of the 20th Company. At Annapolis, Wayne was a standout intercollegiate gymnast, excelling in the parallel bars event. He was

named the winter set brigade commander First Class Year.

Following graduation in 1956, he served 18 years in the U.S. Marine Corps. Tours included three assignments at Marine Corps schools in Quantico, VA; sea duty on the Sixth Fleet flagship; two years as inspector instructor of a Marine Reserve battalion in Chicago, IL; and a Vietnam tour (1967-1968) as operations officer of the 26th Marine Regiment at Khe Sanh, and later, as liaison officer between the Marine 3rd Division and the U.S. Army First Cavalry Division.

Upon retiring from the Marines in 1974, he went to work at the Southern Company, a utility holding company in Atlanta, GA. He eventually became a manager in administrative services, until his retirement in 1989. Desiring to stay active, he worked the 1990 Census for two years; trade shows for the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau; and volunteered for the 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics.

Wayne was an avid tennis player and played competitively into his early 70s and playing casually until his late 70s. He was also a skilled woodworker and lovingly crafted many beautiful pieces for his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In 2001, Wayne's first wife of 30 years, Marilyn Marshall, died of cancer. She was the mother of three girls when they married and they had a son together, Wayne II. In 2002, Wayne married Marie, who had three grown daughters, and along with his three children, they enjoyed a wonderful family life.

Wayne is survived by his sister, Laura Fury of Jeffersonville, IN; stepdaughters, Kimberly C. Harrell of Marietta, GA, and Wendy Pritchett of Loganville, GA; son, Wayne M. Wills II of Sandy Springs, GA; his former wife, Marie Wills; nephew, Gary Wills; grandchildren, Kristen, Madeline, Emily and Anna; and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents; brother, William Wills; wife, Marilyn Marshall Wills; and son, Jeffrey Campbell. ★



SAMUEL BAEZ '57

Captain Samuel Baez, CHC, USN (Ret.), died on 25 February 2023 at his home in Waterford, CT.

"Sam" was born in El Paso, TX, on 31 March 1932. Because of his father's ministry with the Presbyterian church, the family lived in Texas, Colorado, California, New Mexico and Arizona. Sam graduated high school in Marion, IA, in 1950 as president of his class. Enlisted in the Marine Corps, he received a congressional appointment to the Naval Academy. After a year at NAPS, he entered with the Class of

1957. During his involvement with activities at the chapel, he decided to enter ministry, resigned his commission, and completed his studies at Macalester College (1957) and Princeton Theological Seminary (1960).

Ordained as a Presbyterian minister, he reentered military service joining the Navy Chaplain Corps in 1961. Assignments took him to Newport, San Diego, Iwakuni and Atsugi, Japan, and Soc Trang and Danang, Vietnam, in the fall of 1962, where he conducted services for the first Marine casualties of that war. Service followed at Camp Pendleton; SubBase Groton; Puerto Rico; Third Naval District in Manhattan; the Holland in Rota, Spain; Coast Guard Base Governor's Island, NY; Newport Advanced Course; Okinawa; the Fulton in New London; and El Toro MCAS, where he retired with 28 years of service to his credit.

His tennis racquet had traveled the world with him with wins at several service tournaments and was the basis of many friendships abroad and locally. A natural talent led him to produce art works in various media. He authored three books: a novel, a personal memoir and a children's book. He enjoyed fishing in the Niantic River, played some golf and felt himself blessed by his retirement years.

Sam had a continuing respect for the Naval Academy, and in retirement served for several years as a Blue & Gold officer in southeastern Connecticut. He and his wife acted as parent sponsors for cadets at the Coast Guard Academy. In 2014, Sam was inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame.

Sam is survived by Marianne, his wife of 60 years; sons, John (Katherine) and Michael (Cynthia); and three grandsons, John Jr., Mason and Braxton. He was predeceased by all six of his siblings, and his son, Peter. His son, Robert "Bobby," passed away in May 2023.

A memorial service was held at the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, CT. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery. ★



JAMES HARRY MURPHY '57

Commander James H. Murphy, USN (Ret.), passed away on 15 November 2023 in Miami, OK.

Born on 10 April 1935, in Akron, OH, to George and Margarite (Cook) Murphy, "Jim" attended Oklahoma Military Academy before entering the Naval Academy.

He graduated with the Class of 1957 a member of the First Company. After two and a half years on a destroyer, he attended Submarine School. His storied 23-year naval career in the submarine service ended with his retirement at

the rank of commander.

After his retirement, he joined BF Goodrich in Miami, OK, as plant manager, until its closing in 1986. On closing day, he assumed duties as the plant manager of the Fort Howard Paper Company and relocated to Muskogee, OK. After retiring again, he and his wife, Courtney, relocated to the Coves on Grand Lake, OK, where he could often be found playing golf.

In retirement, Jim and Courtney traveled to Florida and California annually to visit their children and grandchildren. They loved to travel, took cruises and attended his 30th, 45th, 47.5 and 50th USNA Class reunions.

Jim was predeceased by his parents, George and Margarite Murphy; his wife, Courtney (Bagby) Murphy; and his brother, Jack Murphy.

Survivors include his children, James H. Murphy Jr. (and his wife, Pam) of Melbourne, FL, David Murphy of Miami, OK, and George Murphy of Reno, NV; sister, Katie Burns (and her husband, John); and four grandchildren, Jack Michael Murphy, Brian Murphy, Daniel Murphy and Melissa Murphy.

Jim wished to be cremated and no services are planned at this time.

Friends and family may send the family notes of encouragement online at (www.brown-winters.com). ★



HARRY WAGNER KONKELL '58

Captain Harry W. Konkell, USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 6 January 2024 at his home, surrounded by his loved ones.

He was born on 11 July 1935 in Jackson, WY, to Maurice and Beatrice Helen "Nelle" Wagner. Harry graduated from Jackson-Wilson High School in Jackson, WY, with the class of 1953 and studied at the University of Wyoming for one year before attending the Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1958. He later earned a BS in Electrical Engineering at the Naval

Postgraduate School, and an MA at the Naval War College.

Harry met Susan Donnell at a holiday party in Findlay, OH, during his 1958 holiday leave. They were married in June 1960.

Harry commanded two destroyers and a destroyer tender. Throughout his Navy career, Harry's family accompanied him to his various duty stations. He received the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal w/Gold Star and Navy Commendation Medal w/Gold Star (2).

After retirement in 1985, the family returned to Findlay, and then to Portland, ME, in 1987. Harry loved celebrating milestone occasions: from an Army-Navy game with USNA alumni, birthday dinners at favorite restaurants, to ringing in the holidays and the blooming of the spring orchids with friends and neighbors.

For a man whose calling was to be a naval officer, he was equally esteemed for his listening skills and emotional acumen, which fostered trust, lifelong friendships and the helping of others in need. Harry, Susan and their children continued the Donnell family's philanthropy to causes they cared about deeply. Local charities include Maine Medical Center, Maine Cancer Foundation, the Portland Museum of Art, Mercy Hospital, Portland Symphony and Portland Stage. Nationally, Harry was a loyal benefactor of Ducks Unlimited, the Naval Academy and the Naval Institute.

LAST CALL

He served on the board of trustees of the Gunston School (Centreville, MD), Gould Academy (Bethel, ME), Portland Museum of Art and the Humane Society (Findlay, OH). More recently, Harry served as a national director of the Navy League of the United States, president of the Osher Library Associates, Osher Map Library, and as a USNA Blue and Gold officer.

Harry leaves behind his beloved daughter, Susie Konkel of Cape Elizabeth, ME. He was predeceased by his wife, Susan, and their son, James.

To his dear friends, shipmates and fellow community leaders, Harry would salute and bid you fair winds and following seas to bring you back safely to your loved ones. ★



FREDERICK CHARLES ANDERSON '59

Colonel Frederick C. Anderson, USAF (Ret.), passed due to complications from pulmonary fibrosis in Warner Robins, GA, on 30 October 2023. He was 86 years old.

"Fred" was born on 23 October 1937 in Johnstown, PA, and grew up in the small coal mining town of Revloc, PA. He excelled academically and athletically at Ebensburg Cambria High School in Ebensburg, PA, and received a congressional appointment to the Naval Academy. He was one of the best

pitchers in college baseball during his time as a three-year varsity baseball player, member of the chapel choir and served as battalion representative as a member of the 19th Company.

He graduated with the Class in June of 1959, and received a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He married his high school sweetheart, Rebecca Jane Jones. He served the Air Force through nine duty stations, including a tour in Thailand during the Vietnam War and one later as base commander at Robins AFB, Georgia. He worked in aircraft maintenance and as a logistician, held command positions at every rank (but one) and completed a distinguished 23-year Air Force career. He retired in 1982 at the rank of colonel.

Post-military, he worked briefly in the financial and insurance fields, and then as a math instructor at Middle Georgia Technical College until his second retirement in 1999. He often remarked that he wanted to be remembered as someone who was always concerned about the welfare of the troops, and later of his students.

Colonel Anderson leaves behind a legacy of service, commitment, courage, humor and love. He was not only a dedicated husband and father, but also a cherished Papa. He lived a very full and happy life and left peacefully on his terms surrounded by his children.

Fred was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Becky, in 2022. They are survived by four children, Fred II, Jeff (USAFA '84), Leslie and Lara; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held in his honor on 22 November 2023. Inurnment for Fred and Becky Anderson will take place at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church columbarium (Warner Robins, GA) in the Spring of 2024.

The Anderson Family ★



JACOB BOLTZ '59

Commander Jacob Boltz, USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 29 December 2023 in Virginia Beach, VA.

"Jake" was born on 30 June 1936, in Pottsville, PA. Upon graduating from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve and attended Wyoming Seminary prep school in Kingston, PA. After graduating and completing one year in the Navy Reserve, he was discharged and received an appointment to the Naval Academy. As a member of the Class of 1959,

he spent the first two years as a member of the Eighth Company and ended his time in Annapolis with the 21st Company. He married his

high school sweetheart, Geraldine "Jerry" DiTullio, on 6 June 1959, immediately following his USNA graduation.

He attended the Naval Supply School in Athens, GA, and following successful completion of his training, was assigned to LAFFEY (DD-724) as supply officer. He then transferred to shore duty for a short stint and then went on to become the supply officer on VULCAN (AR-5). He attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, graduating in 1973. From there, he went on to shore tours in Battle Creek, MI, and Norfolk, VA, finally finishing his naval career at the Navy Yard in Washington, DC.

He continued working as a defense contractor for several companies, including Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman, where he provided logistics support for the Spanish and Japanese navies, supporting their combat ship construction programs. He finally retired for good in June 2006.

Jake was preceded in death by his wife, Jerry. He is survived by their three sons (and daughters-in-law), Jacob M. Boltz, James V. Boltz (Julie) and Daniel J. Boltz (Melinda); and six loving grandchildren, Taherai, Ethan, Jake, DJ, Katie and Dominic. He also leaves a large tightknit group of best friends he'd known since grade school in rural Pennsylvania.

A committal service will be held at the Naval Academy Columbarium at a future date.

Condolences may be left for the family at (www.hollomonbrown.com).

JB '59 ★



ROBERT LAWSON MANLY '59

Robert L. Manly died on 1 January 2024 at the age of 87.

"Bob" was born in 1936 to Arthur MacArthur Lawson and Grace Hall Wyatt in Coconut Grove, FL. After the death of his father, his mother married Charles Wishard Manly, who adopted Bob. After graduating from Coral Gables High School in 1954, he attended the University of Florida, where he joined Kappa Alpha fraternity. He then accepted an appointment to the United States Naval Academy, as a member of the 18th Company.

He graduated with the Class of 1959. After attending Navy Supply Corps School, he served aboard ERNEST G. SMALL (DDR-838), followed by two years at the Bureau of Supply and Accounts (BUSANDA) in Washington, DC.

After resigning his commission in June 1963, he attended the University of Florida College of Law, where he was executive editor of the *Law Review* and a member of the moot court team. It was at law school that he met the love of his life, Felicia Lewis Manly. After graduating with honors, he and Felicia were married in December 1965. He joined the law firm Ackerman LLP in Orlando, FL, and practiced law there for 33 years. He and Felicia were blessed with three sons.

After retiring from the practice of law in 1999, he and Felicia enjoyed cruising with friends, motorhoming across the U.S. and Canada for five years, and then bought a vacation cabin in the mountains of North Carolina. He was an active member of Saint Michael's Episcopal Church, including serving on the vestry, and as a licensed Eucharistic minister. He was a member of The Country Club of Orlando, where he and Felicia enjoyed playing golf.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Felicia; and their three sons, Robby, Kenny and Chuck. He is survived by his first cousins, Tom Wyatt, Barbara Olsen (Clark) and Jon Wyatt; and his second cousin, Ruth DeVries (Adam) and her children, Grace and Michael.

A celebration of his life was held at Saint Michael's Episcopal Church in Orlando, FL, on 20 January 2024.

Memorial contributions in Bob's name may be made to St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2499 N. Westmoreland Drive, Orlando, FL 32804 (www.stmichaelschurch.com) or a charity of one's choice.

RLM '59 ★



ROBERT HOUSTON McLEOD '59

"Bob" McLeod, 87, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Perry Hill on 5 November 2023.

Born in Barre City, VT, on 10 October 1936, he was the son of the late William A. McLeod and Rebecca (Houston) McLeod. Bob graduated from Montpelier High School in 1954. He attended St. Lawrence University before being appointed to the Naval Academy. At Annapolis, he was a proud member of the 18th Company and graduated with the "Rise and Shine" Class of 1959.

Bob joined the fleet as a Surface Warfare Officer, serving aboard LAFFEY (DD-724) and CONSTELLATION (CVA-64).

Leaving the Navy in 1963, he returned to his beloved Vermont to begin a varied and successful business career. He spent over 50 years working in real estate in Central Vermont, building a fulfilling career where he connected deeply with people.

He was a long-time member of Waterbury Congregational Church, where he served as a trustee and in countless other capacities. Probably the only thing he didn't do was sing in the choir! He was a member of Rotary International and served as director, vice-president and president of the Waterbury Rotary. As a founding member of Revitalizing Waterbury, Bob recognized the long-term importance of creating and maintaining a vibrant downtown atmosphere.

Married on 20 June 1959, Bob was a loving and devoted husband to Norma Lois (Taylor) McLeod. In 1967, they moved into the home he designed and built on Perry Hill. He cherished their tight knit "neighborhood," where lifelong friends became like family. The couple enjoyed a long and meaningful marriage, sharing a love for skiing, hiking, tennis and golf. Bob spent his retirement years as Norma's faithful and dedicated caregiver.

Humble and selfless by nature, Bob's gentle demeanor only scratched the surface of his charm. He was always amusing friends and family with his dry sense of humor and witty insights. Generous in every sense of the word, Bob was a great listener, a calming presence in any storm, and had a natural gift for making people feel comfortable and valued.

Bob is loved and mourned by his wife of 64 years, Norma; their children, Julia Garufi (Roger) and Stephen McLeod (Jodi); grandchildren, Fiona, Heather, William and Rhiannon; several nieces, nephew and grandnephews; and countless neighbors and community members.

Bob was a remarkably caring person, beloved by everyone who met him. A celebration of Bob's life was held at Waterbury Congregational Church on 2 December 2023. ★



ROBERT EUGENE TUCKER JR. '60

Captain Robert E. Tucker Jr., USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 16 December 2023 surrounded by his family. He was 86 years old.

"Gene" was born in the Panama Canal Zone on 18 July 1937 to Colonel R.E. Tucker, USA, and Veronica (Waldron) and moved frequently during his childhood to many Army postings. After World War II, they were stationed in Berlin, where he had fond memories and liked to use the German words he had picked up.

One of his favorite residences was Anna Maria, FL, where he lived with his young siblings. After retirement, he returned yearly to Anna Maria from his Washington, DC, home, along with family and friends to enjoy watching sunsets and spending time together.

Gene was a proud graduate of the Naval Academy Class of 1960. He went on to flight training in Pensacola, FL, before becoming a test pilot at Pax River, MD. He served most of his career in the Virginia Beach area flying F-14s, then commanding fighter squadrons, ultimately serving as commanding officer of SYLVANIA (AFS-2) and CORAL SEA (CVE-57).

In Gene's military career, he flew 6,186 hours while making 1,284 carrier arrested landings, (367 at night). During two Vietnam combat deployments, he shot down an enemy Mig and flew 275 combat

missions. His combat awards include the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal (5) and Navy Commendation Medal (4).

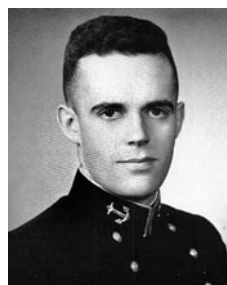
When he retired from the Navy, he flew with Presidential Airways and then went on to Lockheed Martin and Thales, where he spent four years working on the design of the HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH flight deck in Bristol, UK, where he enjoyed a good pub crawl.

Above all, Gene loved spending time with and entertaining his family and friends. He was the patriarch of his extended family and always made sure to take care of everyone and keep them laughing.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Dolly (Hauck) Tucker; children, Leslie Tucker, R.E. "Bob" Tucker III, Whitney Hauck Wood and Stephen Hauck; five grandchildren, R.E. "Tucker" Tucker IV, Ryan Tucker, Lieutenant Cooper Wood, USN, Emma Wood and Sarah Hauck; his former wife, Alice Tucker; sister, Anne Fister; and many nieces, nephews and cousins, all of whom he loved dearly.

Gene's burial will take place at Arlington National Cemetery on Monday, 6 May 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Donations may be made in Gene's name to the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org). ★



CHARLES ROLAND DENNEY JR. '61

Charles R. Denney Jr. passed away peacefully on 21 December 2023 in Walnut Creek, CA. He was 85 years old.

Born in Everett, WA, "Chuck" was the eldest son of Charles and Edith Denney. He attended Everett High School, where he played basketball and ran track. Then on to the University of Washington for a year before receiving his appointment to the Naval Academy, where he was a member of the Class of 1961, 15th Company. With his sights set on naval aviation

upon graduation, he instead ended up in the Silent Service.

His first tour was on REDFISH (SS-395) from 1963- 1966; followed by a tour on TUNNY (SS-282) from 1966-1967. He had a decorated naval career that culminated in the rank of lieutenant commander. During this time, he met Mary Bonita Baron and they were married on 2 May 1964.

Following his discharge from the Navy in 1968, they settled in Walnut Creek, CA. Chuck earned his MBA from Golden Gate University in 1971. He went on to work for Fiberboard, C&H Sugar and as a realtor. He was a dedicated husband, father, brother, grandfather, naval officer, coach and friend.

Upon retirement, he enjoyed his time with family, watching and playing sports, traveling, golf, SIRS events and poker with friends. He will be remembered most fondly for his quick wit and love of family.

Chuck is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary; sisters, Mary Jeffers and Anne McGary; children, Michael Baron Denney (Lisa), Patricia Lynn Denney and Kathleen Marie Cefalu (Joseph); along with six grandchildren, Itzy, Leslie, Tommy, Michael, Christina and Emily. He was predeceased by his brother, John, and brother in-law, Nick.

A celebration of life was held on 8 January 2024, followed by interment at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, CA. ★



STEPHEN KENT CHADWICK '62

Rear Admiral Stephen K. Chadwick, USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully on 18 January 2024 in Lubbock, TX.

"Steve" was raised in Birmingham, AL, and graduated from Phillips High School. As a senior in high school, and with parental support, he enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve, leaving for Parris Island the day after graduation. After a year at Birmingham Southern College, he was selected to attend the Naval Academy, graduating with the Class of 1962.

Upon graduation, he reported to GEARING (DD-710) and participated in the blockade of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In later sea tours, he served as weapons officer in EVANS (DE-1023) and as commanding

officer of the minesweeper *WARBLER* (MSC-206) homeported in Sasebo, Japan, and participated in several Market Time patrols in Vietnam. Returning from Japan, he served as a junior officer detailee, which gave him the opportunity to detail himself to the Naval Postgraduate School. After Monterey, he served as a combat advisor to the South Vietnamese Navy in the *Uh Mihn Forest* of the Mekong Delta.

After returning from Vietnam, he served as executive officer in *JONAS INGRAM* (DD-438) and then commissioning commanding officer in *PETERSON* (DD 969). For his command of *PETERSON*, he was awarded the Navy League's John Paul Jones Award for Inspirational Leadership. He would later command Destroyer Squadron 36, deploying to the eastern Mediterranean, where he coordinated gunfire support during the crisis in Lebanon. After major command, he reported for one of the shortest Pentagon tours in history and in an obvious attempt to provide inspiration to the academic bottom 20% of the Brigade classes, he was selected to serve as the Naval Academy's 71st Commandant of Midshipmen, which he described as "the most demanding and rewarding" tour of his career. His flag tours included duty as PERS 4, Head Detailee and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific/Naval Base Pearl Harbor.

Following retirement in 1990, he served as president and CEO of PRODESCO Inc., a technology company that provides specialty textiles to the chemical and aerospace industries. Under his leadership, PRODESCO formed a wholly owned subsidiary, Secant Medical, which provides textile-based structures for implantable medical devices. He served in that role until his second retirement in 2013.

His is survived by his wife of 59 years, Maureen; daughter, Betsy Kasemrsi; and his sons, RDML Robb Chadwick '91, USN (Ret.) and Dr. Jon Chadwick '93, CDR, MC, USN (Ret.); and nine grandchildren. ★



LEIGHTON WARREN SMITH JR. '62

Admiral Leighton W. Smith Jr., USN (Ret.), passed away at his home in Pinehurst, NC, on 28 November 2023 at the age of 84.

Leighton, known to friends and his Navy colleagues as "Snuffy," was born in Mobile, AL, in 1939. Snuffy attended the University of Alabama and later entered the Naval Academy, where the *Lucky Bag* referred to him as, "a gentleman in every sense of the word." Snuffy overcame close calls with the academic board, graduated with his class and reported to Pensacola, receiving his naval aviator Wings of Gold in 1964.

Snuffy primarily piloted the A-4 Skyhawk and A-7 Corsair II light attack aircraft during his operational flying career. His wartime service during the Vietnam conflict included three lengthy deployments and over 280 combat missions. He subsequently held command at

sea at the squadron and wing levels, as well as major commands that included the replenishment ship *KALAMAZOO* (AOR-6), the aircraft carrier *AMERICA* (CV-66), and service as Commander, Carrier Group Six as a flag officer. Admiral Smith logged more than 4,200 flying hours and accumulated well over a thousand carrier-arrested landings.

Admiral Smith's flag staff assignments included serving as director of operations for the U.S. European Command during a critical period in Europe, which saw the fall of the Berlin Wall and end of the Cold War. His Pentagon service as the Navy's Chief of Operations and Plans provided the opportunity to introduce the power projection strategy known as "From the Sea..." He received the rank of admiral in 1994 and was appointed Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Commander-in-Chief of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Allied Forces Southern Europe. In 1995, he assumed command of the NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR) in Bosnia. He retired in 1996.

Admiral Smith's service was recognized with numerous awards including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster and the Distinguished Flying Cross with Gold Star. His NATO service was recognized by several Allied nations, including Hungary and



Distinguished Graduate Award Recipient 2007

France. Admiral Smith was made an Honorary Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire (invested by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom in February 1997).

Admiral Smith met his future wife, Dorothy "Dottie" McDowell during his Plebe year. A Midshipman-career courtship led to Dottie and Snuffy marrying after graduation in 1962. Following his Navy career, Snuffy and Dottie found home harbor in Pinehurst, NC, where he remained active in national and military affairs, while also leading an active business life as a senior consultant and member of several corporate boards.

Snuffy served the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and the Naval Academy community as chairman of the USNAAA Board of Trustees for six years during a key time of transition for the Association. In 2004, he was appointed to the USNA Board of Visitors by President Bush. Admiral Smith was recognized by the Alumni Association as a Distinguished Graduate in 2007.

Admiral Smith is survived by his spouse, Dottie; son, Leighton Smith (Marissa); daughters, Page Lewis (Llewellyn '90) and Captain Dorothy "DeeDee" Smith; as well as five grandchildren, Taylor, Chase, David, Andrew and Morgan.

Admiral Smith's funeral service will take place at the Naval Academy Chapel on 19 April 2024, followed by burial at the Naval Academy Cemetery on Hospital Point.

The Tailhook Educational Foundation has established a scholarship in Admiral Smith's honor. The inaugural awardee will be announced in August 2024 at Hook '24. Donations in support may be made at (www.tailhook.net/donate-now). Please note "Snuffy" or Leighton Smith.

An expanded obituary is available at (www.tinyurl.com/leighton-smith). ★



DONALD EDWARD WATKINS '62

Captain Donald E. Watkins, USN (Ret.), passed away on 23 September 2023. Surrounded by family, he succumbed to the complications of Parkinson's disease.

"Don" was born in East Los Angeles, CA, on 1 October 1940, to Bill and Eunice Watkins. He graduated from Montebello High School in 1958, where he was on two championship football teams and was active in student government. In 2014, he was inducted into the Montebello High School Hall of Fame.

Upon his graduation from the United States Naval Academy in 1962, he was selected for Admiral Rickover's Submarine Nuclear Power School program. After completion of training, he reported to *JAMES MONROE* (SSBN-622), followed by *SNOOK* (SSN-592) for an overhaul and a WestPac deployment. He subsequently attended the Naval Postgraduate School, where he obtained an MS in financial management in 1970. He then served on *HENRY CLAY* (SSBN-625) as navigator and afterwards returned to *JAMES MONROE* as executive officer. He was then assigned to *ULYSSES S. GRANT* (SSBN-631) as prospective commanding officer (Gold Crew), assuming command in 1979.

Captain Watkins' post command tours included Director of Submarine Security for the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Submarine Warfare; Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Strategic Plans, Submarine Group Five; Senior Submarine Inspector for the Pacific Board of Inspection and Survey; and finally, comptroller at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with three Gold Stars and the Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star.

After active duty, he served in nuclear waste disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant for the U.S. Department of Energy, in Carlsbad, NM; and for SAIC and Bechtel at the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository.

In retirement, he was active playing tennis, traveling every continent and enjoying family activities as a devoted grandfather. He served many years with the RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol) for Diamond Gateway, treasurer for his HOA and was a faithful member of Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church choir, as well as the Savvy Travelers board.

Don is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 61 years, Sharon; their three children, Michael, Laurie Ann and Gregory; plus six grandchildren, Justin, Caitlin, Kayvon, Lucas, Abigail and Layla.

Celebration of Life services took place at Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church, followed by inurnment at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, CA. ★



DAVID JAMES EBERT '63

David J. Ebert, son of Christian Ebert and Grace May Ebert, died at his home in Annapolis, MD, on 30 June 2023 after a brief illness. He was 82 years old.

“Dave” was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, and attended North Allegheny Senior High School. He went on to graduate from the Naval Academy with the Class of 1963, 22nd Company. While there, he met his future wife, Lynn Neugent, at a Carvel Hall dance on King George Street, just outside Gate One. Dave and

Lynn were married on 8 June 1963, immediately following Commissioning Week. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary three weeks before his death.

Dave was stationed in Norfolk, VA, aboard EATON and Newport, RI, aboard WILKINSON. He attended Anti-Submarine Warfare School in Key West, FL. He graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a Master of Science degree in electrical engineering in 1973. Dave worked at the U.S. naval station in Annapolis for 42 years with the Joint Spectrum Center as a research engineer.

Dave loved gardening, daily walks, following the stock market and supporting his grandchildren in their activities. He was well known for his dry sense of humor and his love of music. He was a proud supporter of the Boy Scouts of America and enjoyed watching Navy football and spending time with his many friends among Naval Academy alumni.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn; daughters, Cynthia Russo (Brian) and Lori Miller (Jeffery); and grandchildren, Payton, Alexander, Hailey, Eric, Tristan and McKenna.

His grandchildren were his pride and joy, and he was always excited to share their interests. The neighborhood will miss Dave on his nightly walks while sharing the harvest from his vegetable garden. He was loved by many and will be missed by all.

A Celebration of Life was held on 30 July 2023 at St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in Annapolis and inurnment took place at the Naval Academy Columbarium on 3 August 2023.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association (www.diabetes.org), the Boy Scouts of America (www.scouting.org) or a charity of your choice. ★



DAVID NELSON HULL '63

Captain David N. Hull, USN (Ret.), 84, died on 2 December 2023 amidst family in Longmont, CO.

“Dave” was born on 13 July 1939 in Syracuse, NY, to Francis and Adrienne Hull, moving with his family to Lancaster, PA, where he enjoyed a productive youth, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Dave spent two years at Penn State studying engineering, participating in gymnastics, wrestling and NROTC.

Appointed to USNA, Dave promptly applied his experience, helping hapless crewmates “learn

the ropes” during Plebe Summer. Dave mastered academics, competed fiercely as a varsity wrestler, contended always for #1 in Class PT and again, aided classmates by coaching them in PT program gymnastic mandates. Dave graduated proudly with the Class of 1963 as a member of the 20th Company.

A special lady from Lancaster, PA, was often a welcome Yard visitor. Thus, Dave and his high school sweetheart, Ruth McLain, were married on graduation day, departing under arched swords to San Diego and 60 years of loving and selfless marriage.

Dave craved engineering duty, and after two years at sea, was accepted into the Civil Engineering Corps, and detailed to the University of Michigan for a master’s degree in electrical engineering. Subsequent duty stations took them to Taiwan, the Philippines, San Diego, Port Hueneme, Port Mugu, Kings Bay and Washington, DC. A passion for travel generated visits to many world destinations including Spain, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Polynesia, India, Namibia and Botswana.

Dave retired from active duty in 1989 and was awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptional professional achievement.

Four years of the rugged life began for Ruthie and Dave in Brian Head, UT, hiking, cross-country skiing and exploring Mountain-West. Dave began a second career in Milton, FL, for several years in the 1990s, supporting industrial clients. A third career involved his creation of MMS Corporation, consulting in business process analysis and reengineering for large, distributed enterprises. Dave and Ruthie embraced retirement in the new century, settling to enjoyable life in Las Cruces, NM. They moved to Colorado in 2020 to be close to their daughter, Coralie, and family.

Dave was a lover of life, family, travel, outdoor life and the many people he encountered worldwide. Particularly, he loved his lifetime sweetheart, Ruthie, and their shared adventures.

Dave is survived by his wife, Ruthie; daughter, Coralie (Jess); grandsons, Ethan and Bennett; and sisters, Coralie Werking and Julie Ray.

Tom Robertson '63 & the Hull Family ★



GLENN PAUL LAURY '63

Commander Glenn P. Laury, USNR (Ret.), passed away peacefully in his home in Palm Coast, FL, on 12 November 2023, having fought a courageous and heroic battle with Parkinson’s disease, resulting from his exposure to Agent Orange during his service in Vietnam.

Glenn was born in Lehigh, PA, on 4 July 1940 to Doris (Miller) and Paul E. Laury. He graduated from Upper Darby High School, and completed an additional year at Bullis Academy, graduating with honors (1959).

Glenn was a member of the Naval Academy Class of 1963, Fifth Battalion, Ninth Company. He served for four years as a tenor in the chapel choir and was an avid intramural wrestler.

Glenn was commissioned as a Navy ensign on 5 June 1963 following his graduation from USNA. As a naval aviator, he piloted S2 Trackers in Vietnam. He ended his active service as a flight instructor in Training Squadron Five, in Milton, FL, and immediately joined the Naval Reserve.

His decorations include the Vietnam Service Medal (One Star), the Aviation Safety Award and the National Defense Service Medal. Glenn retired on 4 July 2000.

Glenn attended Rutgers Graduate School of Business and received his MBA (1971). He also secured the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) designation from the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards (1987).

Working initially at CitiBank in New York City, he subsequently was recruited by the Menke Group, a California based investment banking firm, serving as vice president and head of their East Coast division.

Glenn served as a member of the vestry at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Basking Ridge, NJ. He also served as a mentor and counsellor with the Volusia/Flagler Chapter of SCORE. He headed up the Flagler County team for Marco Rubio’s initial senatorial campaign and ultimately was elected to the Flagler County Republican Executive Committee.

Predeceased by his first wife, Claire McCormick Laury, in 1987, Glenn married Deborah Bowden Laury in 1988. They were happily and joyfully married for 35 years. Debbie deeply mourns his passing.

Glenn is survived Debbie; his sister, Barbara Little; daughter (with Claire), Cynthia Gail Laury Dahl; and grandchildren, Nicholas and Brenden.

A Celebration of Life with full military honors was held on 12 December 2023 at St. James Episcopal Church in Ormond Beach, FL. Memorials may be made to the Parkinson’s Foundation (www.parkinson.org), or the Michael J. Fox Foundation (www.michaeljfox.org).

Rest in Peace, Dearest Glenn. ★



WILLIAM JOSEPH OPITZ '63

William J. Opitz died 21 November 2023 of kidney complications, surrounded by loved ones at his Helena, MT, home.

"Bill" was born 22 June 1941 to Elmer and Lola Opitz in Missoula, MT, where he excelled in youthful activities and worked at the family butcher shop. A class leader at Loyola High School, he starred as shrine-game quarterback, All-State basketballer and shot-put champion. At USNA, he commanded the First Battalion and graduated with the Class of 1963 as

Second Company Commander. Admired by fellow midshipmen, Bill was tough competition on the court/field, and craftily was assigned to try wrangling Joe Bellino practicing punt returns.

After Nuclear Power School, Bill landed a lifetime catch in 1964 by marrying Judy Schureman in Idaho Falls, ID. At New London, CT, Bill qualified in submarines and served in JAMES K. POLK (SSBN-645). He was known for professional excellence and standing tall for his men, completing active duty in 1970 teaching officers at Submarine School.

Bill, Judy, Kim and David moved to Idaho to help Judy's family through two potato harvests, returning to Missoula for grad school at the University of Montana. Bill worked his way to an MBA while working as a butcher, using brawn and skills developed during youth.

In 1974, Bill and Judy moved their prospering family to Helena, where he took an executive position in state government. This led to governor recruitment as Deputy Director Health and Environmental Services. Bill resisted persuasions to pursue elected office, remaining firm as his own man, serving fellow citizens and earning the admiration of his employees.

Bill had a passion for the outdoors; hunting, fishing and boating with family and pals. Autumn found him chasing elk over rough terrain near the Continental Divide, fish and game always plentiful in the freezer. Never one to shy from a card game, Bill was ever the gracious winner. Folks could see John Wayne in this sturdy Montanan, full of spirit and manliness.

Bill cherished his retirement with family, friends and the Yuma winter-haven he enjoyed with the love of his life for 59 years, the ultimate yin to his yang, Judy. She survives, along with their daughter, Kim Stenberg (Dave) of Kalispell; son, David (Trish) of Missoula; five grandchildren; brother, Jim (Patty); sister, Mary; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services occurred 2 December 2023 in Helena, followed by interment at Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery on 4 December.

Tom Robertson '63 & The Opitz Family ★



ROBERT JOSEPH CEPEK '64

Captain Robert J. Cepek, USN (Ret.), unexpectedly departed on his last deployment in Arnold, MD, on 14 September 2023.

"Bob" was born in Brookfield, IL, on 14 February 1942 to Jack and Edna Cepek, graduating from Lyons Township High School in Brookfield, IL.

Bob graduated from the Naval Academy with a BS in Oceanography with his 12th Company in 1964. While at USNA, Bob met Diane while on leave in Chicago and they were

wed in June 1965.

Realizing his dream of being a Surface Warfare Officer, Bob reported to BERKELEY (DDG-15) in Long Beach, CA, and follow on tour on TAUSSIG (DD-746) in Newport, RI. His first shore tour was at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, where he earned a MS in Oceanography. After NPS, Bob left for one of his most memorable tours as a naval advisor in Ethiopia. Upon his return, Bob served as executive officer on CARPENTER (DD-825) in San Francisco, CA.

Bob's senior naval career took him back to USNA as a chemistry professor and Director of Professional Development and then had a tour in the Surface Warfare OpNav shop. Bob then commanded BLANDY

(DD-943) and PHARRIS (FF-1094), during which he deployed to the Mediterranean Sea. Since roots had been put down since 1976 in Arnold, MD, Bob chose another OpNav tour in DC.

Bob's major command tour was ComDesRon 15 in Yokosuka, Japan, where he deployed several times on MIDWAY (CV-41). Bob completed another Pentagon tour and returned to Yokosuka as the Seventh Fleet Chief of Staff. Bob's last assignment in the Navy was on the staff of the Inspector General before retiring in 1994.

From 1994 to 2016, Bob worked for Northrop Grumman, Johns Hopkins APL and as a government civilian championing the development and deployment of undersea surveillance systems for the U.S. Navy.

After his second retirement, Bob was active in the Protestant church at the Naval Academy Chapel and as a USNA tour guide. Since 1976, Bob and Diane served as sponsors for many midshipmen whom Bob mentored over the years.

Bob is survived by his wife of 58 years, Diane; son, Bob '89; daughter, Carolyn; and five grandchildren, Cameron, Kyle, Austin, Gabriella and Alexandra.

A memorial service is scheduled for 15 April 2024 at the U.S. Naval Academy Chapel, followed by interment at the USNA Columbarium.

The Cepek Family ★



ROBERT MILLER SILVERT JR. '64

Commander Robert M. Silvert Jr., USNR (Ret.), passed after a lengthy illness in Allentown, PA, on 15 November 2023. He was 84 years old.

"Bob" was born on 8 June 1939 to the late Robert M. Silvert Sr. and Ethel M. (Shelhamer) Silvert. After graduating from Allentown High School, he enlisted in the Navy at age 17. He stood first in his Submarine School and Electronic Technician classes and, after NAPS, came to the Naval Academy with the Class of 1964 as an ET2(SS). He had qualified

in submarines aboard STERLET (SS-392). At USNA, he was in the Fourth Company, was elected as Honor Representative, served on the Hop Committee and Sailing Squadron, and chaired the Christmas Card Committee.

After graduation, he served on BLENNY (SS-324) and SALMON (SS-573) in direct support of the Vietnam War; CLAMAGORE (SS-343); the Naval Postgraduate School; and Submarine Flotilla One (San Diego).

After leaving active duty, he served in the Submarine Reserves, including duty as acting commanding officer of ComSubRon 2-213 in Chicago, retiring as a commander. His active and reserve service stretched over 34 years.

Bob held a number of management consulting positions with several firms, including Cresap/Towers Perrin, Wass Consulting Group Inc. and Koenig Associates. Early on, he held a management position with UPS in North Carolina.

He was a member of the American Legion and VFW, and anything related to computers was of interest to him. Bob was a quiet leader, always looking to be helpful and supportive to anyone and everyone. Bob always faced life challenges with understanding and persistence, along with a strong determination to resolve them.

Bob was the devoted husband of Susan Bianco Silvert, the love of his life. They celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary in October 2023, having spent 25 years together in a loving relationship. Sue brought great happiness to Bob's life, which he richly deserved. He is survived by his wife, Susan; and sons, Scott M. Silvert and Brian R. Silvert. He was predeceased by his brother, Thomas C. Silvert; and sister, Diana E. Parsons.

A graveside service will be held at a later date.

Donations in Bob's memory may be made to the Naval Academy Foundation (www.usna.com/give). ★

DO YOU HAVE YOUR DD-214?

www.usna.com/DD-214



DOUGLAS ROGER POWELL '65

Doug Powell passed away on 13 September 2023. He was 80 years old.

A native of Colorado, he graduated from Sheridan Union High School in 1961 before entering the Naval Academy. At Annapolis, Doug enjoyed wrestling and was a member of the 12th Company during First Class Year. Shortly after graduation, Doug married his high school sweetheart and the love of his life, Pat.

Doug and his family lived in a variety of places, including New London, Norfolk,

Charleston, Denver, Bismarck and Reno, but Boise is where they lived the longest. After the children grew, he and Pat then lived in Boston, West Palm Beach, Reno, Hong Kong and Kyiv, and ultimately retired back to the Denver, CO, area.

Doug was a consummate engineer and he served on submarines until he left the Navy in the early 1970s to work in private power production. He contributed to some of the most important alternative energy projects in the United States and Asia.

Doug's emphasis was geothermal energy production, and his last plant was the flagship project in the Salton Sea, which has become the largest source of geothermal power in North America. Over the last ten years, he worked with those producers to develop processes to remove lithium and other strategic minerals from the brine running through the plants in order to provide a reliable domestic source of lithium for the green economy. Doug was a dedicated mentor to many in the industry, and EnergySource Minerals LLC plans to name this first lithium plant in his honor.

Doug was deeply committed to his family and to his faith communities, generously giving of his time, skills and resources. He was a man of prayer, seeking to honor God in all he did. He loved biking, building things at home, and reading Louis L'Amour novels. He was intensely proud of his children and grandchildren. His last few months of life were challenging, but he was grateful for the grace to say goodbye to many he loved.

Doug is survived by his beloved wife, Pat; their children, Russ and Mandy; and two granddaughters he adored, Kaylyn and Ruby.

The Powell Family ★



ROBERT FRANCIS SERMIER '65

Robert F. Sermier died on 4 December 2023 in New York City.

"Bob" was born in Saugerties, NY, to Francis Sermier and Henriette (Carrieu) Sermier on 22 April 1943. At the Naval Academy, Bob enjoyed long-distance running and contributed greatly to Navy's track and cross-country programs. He was a member of the 22nd Company during First Class Year.

After Annapolis and his years of service in the nuclear submarine program, Bob received

his MBA from Harvard Business School and began his career in public service at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, DC, and then continued at the Human Resource Agency in New York City. He then became CFO of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and remained a professor in the Master of Public Administration program until his retirement. In addition to his professional life, he served on the board of the Harcourt Foundation until his death.

Bob was especially gratified to be able to apply his MBA education to a career in public service. The essence of his views regarding management in public service was first conveyed to him by a former CEO and cabinet officer who summed up one of the differences between the private and public sectors as follows: "When you walk the halls late at night in the private sector, you see only the junior people. When you walk the halls late at night in the public sector, you see only the senior people."

Bob enjoyed his homes in New York City and North Bennington, VT. He especially enjoyed his leisure time playing golf and traveling—most recently to Kyoto.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Martha Ackerman Sermier, and his brother, Edward Sermier and his family. He is also survived by the Indhur Mandhyan family and the extended Ackerman family.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

A celebration of his life was held in New York City on 4 February 2024, attended by a number of his USNA classmates. ★



WILLIAM BRADFORD BIRKMAIER JR. '66

Captain William B. Birkmaier Jr., USN (Ret.), of Wayland and formerly of Lebanon, NH, passed away at home 26 September 2023. He was 79 years old.

"Bill" was the son of Catherine (Witham) Birkmaier and William B. Birkmaier Sr. A native of North Reading, MA, Bill reported to USNA in 1962, majoring in chemistry and oceanography. His was a consistent name on the Superintendent's List and he played 17th Company and Battalion intermural squash. It was rare to find him in

Bancroft Hall on Saturday night.

After graduation with the Class of 1966, Bill earned his NFO Wings in April 1967. His first assignment was as comms officer and photographer-navigator in Heavy Photographic Squadron VAP-62 in the RA3B Skywarrior on aerial cartographic and photo-recon missions throughout the world, including Vietnam, until 1969.

Bill earned a master's degree in computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, in 1971.

After transitioning to the EA6B Prowler, he served as electronics countermeasures officer in Tactical Electronics Warfare Squadron, VAQ-129. His next assignment was as avionics officer in VAQ-134, deploying to WestPac in CONSTELLATION (CV-64). Reassigned to VAQ-129 in 1974, flying the Expanded Capability EA6B, he was the ECM systems officer and flight instructor until 1976. Transitioning to the improved capability EA6B, Bill reported to VAQ-135 as admin officer, assistant maintenance officer, electronic warfare officer and ops officer, deploying to the Med in NIMITZ (CVN-68).

In 1979, Bill was ordered to CinCPac Staff, Pearl Harbor, HI, as command control systems analyst. Following a fourth tour with VAQ-129 in April 1982, Bill reported as executive officer of VAQ-133 and deployed to WestPac/NorPac/IO in ENTERPRISE (CVN-65). Bill assumed command of VAQ-133 in October 1983 and deployed again to WestPac/IO in ENTERPRISE.

Bill was also a proven subspecialist in EW and C2 computer technology.

In May 1985, Bill reported HQ USEUCOM, Stuttgart, Germany, as joint reconnaissance center plans officer and chief of the Special Technical Operations Center. From 1988, until he retired, Bill served as chief of NATO Headquarters Situation Center, Brussels, Belgium.

Predeceased by his parents, Bill is survived by his lovely wife of 53 years, Laura (Lebron-Lopez) Birkmaier; their children (and spouses), William Birkmaier (Christelle), Sherry Calderon (Harold) and Cristina Birkmaier; his siblings, Karl and Mark Birkmaier, Lori O'Rourke and Lynne Heywood; and grandchildren, Skyler, Liam, Oliver, Nicholas and Luca.

Services were held 30 September 2023 at Riverside Cemetery in North Reading, MA. ★

USNA TRIBUTE GIFTS

www.usna.com/tribute-gifts



JOHN ROBERT HODDY '66

John R. Hoddy passed from this life into eternity in heaven with Jesus on 23 November 2023 in New Jersey. He was 79 years old.

John was born on 18 May 1944 in Columbus, OH, to the late Glenn Robert and Dorothy Eloise (Livezey) Hoddy. He graduated from Hamilton Township High School in Columbus (1962), where he was class valedictorian, played football, basketball and track & field, as well as many school organizations and clubs, distinguishing himself both athletically

and academically.

He was a proud U.S. Navy veteran, graduating from the Naval Academy in the Class of 1966. Trained as a nuclear engineer, he served as an officer on the submarines GATO (SSN-615) and KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN-642) during the Cold War.

Upon his discharge from active duty in 1972, John embarked on a successful four-decade career in the civilian nuclear power industry in Illinois, Connecticut, New York and Pennsylvania.

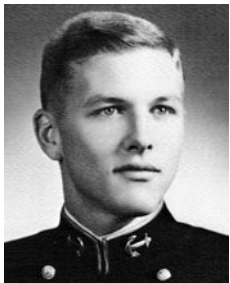
John's Christian faith was an integral part of his life, and he participated in the churches he and his family attended as an unforgettable Sunday School teacher, Bible study leader and building and music committee member.

John's personal interests were wide-ranging: from history to engineering, from literature and poetry to sports and music, from fishing and the outdoors, to antique hunting and restoration. He was an avid do-it-yourselfer, nearly singlehandedly remodeling the family's 1880s Victorian historical home in Fulton, NY, from top to bottom, with the witting and sometimes unwitting assistance of his two sons. In his last year, although his health challenged him significantly, John was able to reunite his two sons and their families in New Jersey.

John will be remembered as a thoughtful and immediately generous man, full of wisdom, able to converse knowledgeably and at length on nearly any subject, and with a quick wit and indomitable sense of humor in every circumstance and even in difficulty.

He was predeceased by his parents; his first wife, Mary Ann (Peters) Hoddy; and his second wife, Billie (Behrend) Hoddy. John is survived by his sisters, Rebecca Case and Christine Smith (Burt); sons, John C. Hoddy (Michele) and Michael T. Hoddy (Grace); and two grandchildren, Christopher and Jonathan Hoddy; as well as many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on 5 December 2023 in Grove City, OH, followed by a graveside service with military honors on 6 December at Galloway Cemetery. ★



JOHN MICHAEL KELLY '66

Lieutenant Colonel John Michael Kelly, USMC (Ret.), 81, of Ashburn, VA, died on 12 October 2023 surrounded by immediate family.

"Mike" was born in Norfolk, VA, on 2 July 1942 to John Curtis "Curt" Kelly '37 and Betty Kelly, the eldest of six siblings. He graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Long Beach, CA, in June 1960. Mike attended NAPS prior to entering the Naval Academy. He graduated in June 1966 and was commissioned in the U.S. Marine Corps. Following graduation,

Mike married Margaret "Peggy" McKeever on 25 June 1966. After the Basic School in Quantico, VA, he earned his Wings at Pensacola, FL.

Mike served at Marine Corps bases across the U.S. and overseas, the Joint Staff and in combat as a CH46 helicopter pilot in Vietnam. He demonstrated courage, calmness and professional airmanship and skill under enemy fire. Following Vietnam, Mike attended Artillery School at Fort Sill, OK, and subsequently commanded three artillery batteries. One of his favorite tours was at the Naval Academy as a leadership instructor. In addition to classroom duties, midshipmen benefited from his passion

for both aviation and sailing. Mike served as a volunteer flight instructor pilot and as an offshore racing coach for the Navy sailing team.

He was class president from 1984-1989 and retired from the Marine Corps in June 1987. His personal decorations include the Purple Heart, Defense Meritorious Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2), Air Medal (8) and the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V.

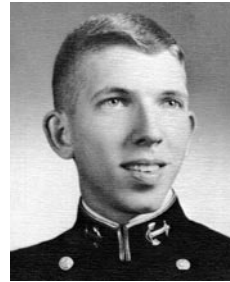
In addition to a lengthy government and industry studies program in both the academic environment and the private sector, he earned a master's degree in international finance from The George Washington University and an MBA from Marymount University. He worked with Alex Brown & Sons as an investment representative before joining the NASDAQ in New York as a Managing Director of Issuer Affairs.

His passions were family, sailing and aviation. He loved sailing the Chesapeake Bay and took great pleasure and joy in teaching and sharing both his knowledge and "hands on" activities with his family and friends.

Mike was predeceased by his parents and siblings, Kathy and Robert. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Peggy; daughters, Kristin Bashore and Hillary Klein; brothers, Tom and Jerry Kelly; sister, Tish Butler; and five grandchildren.

A Funeral Mass was held on 3 November 2023 with inurnment to take place later at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Kelly Family & Michael's friends ★



JAMES EDWARD KOONS '66

"Jim" Koons unexpectedly passed away of a heart attack on 13 December 2023, in Las Cruces, NM. He was 79 years old.

Born in Tulsa, OK, on 12 October 1944, to Harold and Dorothy (Dolen) Koons, he was the youngest of three boys. Jim excelled in cross country and track, both at Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, and later at the Naval Academy.

Twelve days after graduation with the Class of 1966, he married his high school sweetheart, Evelyn Jane Logan, at New Haven Methodist

Church in Tulsa, OK. Four months later, Jim was deployed to proudly serve his country with the Great 58 Seabee Battalion in the Vietnam War. He continued to be proud of his military education and service and could regularly be seen wearing USNA apparel.

Jim always excelled academically and furthered his education at the University of Michigan, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering and became an avid Michigan Wolverines football fan. Their son, Vance, was born in Ann Arbor, MI. After returning to Annapolis to continue his military service, their son, Brian, was born. The military took the family to Meridian, MS, where Jim ended his eight years of service.

Jim's first civilian employment with the Benham Group moved the family back to Oklahoma. Jim finalized his education by earning a Master of Business Administration. Jim continued in the facilities construction and management field at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix, Ball State University in Muncie, IN, and retired in 2010 from Southern Methodist University. The pinnacle of his career was being on the team responsible for bringing the George W. Bush Presidential Library to the SMU campus.

Retirement led Jim and Jane to Las Cruces, NM, where Jim could enjoy his hobbies of hiking and golf. They were in the process of moving to Tulsa, OK, when he passed.

Jim is survived by his spouse, Jane; sons, Vance Patrick Koons (Christine) and Brian Scot Koons (Kelli); grandchildren, Nicole, Brice (fiancée, Layni), Mason and Kaitlin; his brother, Raymond Koons; sister-in-law, Sondra Koons; and Jane's sisters, Linda Logan and Kathryn Evanson (Michael); as well as several nieces and nephews and their children. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Frank.

A family memorial service will be held in Tulsa, OK.

Memorial donations may be directed to the Naval Academy Foundation (www.usna.com/give) or the American Heart Association (www.heart.org). ★



WILLIAM ALLISON WOOD '66

Captain William A. Wood, USN (Ret.), died peacefully at his home in Dunwoody, GA, of natural causes on 15 January 2024. He was 79 years old.

Will's father had been an attack pilot in World War II, after which the family moved often. Will was active in their churches, loved God, loved the Navy and loved playing sports. At his high school in Olney, IL, he lettered in football, tennis and track.

At the Naval Academy, Will excelled in academics and never lost his great sense of humor. He was very jovial, fun to be around and popular with his 7th and 12th Company classmates.

Will's Rickover interview was among the shortest on record ("Get out of here!"). He had an outstanding 25-year career, serving on four submarines, including engineering billets on JAMES MONROE (SSBN-622) and engineering officer of DANIEL WEBSTER (SSBN-626). After getting his MBA at the University of Michigan, Will was executive officer of PLUNGER (SSN-595). He then served on the staff of Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. In July 1982, Will became commanding officer of SILVERSIDES (SSN-679) for four years.

Will's 51-year marriage to his loving and supportive wife, Catherine, began at Pearl Harbor, HI, in 1972. They were very proud of their daughter, Dr. Susannah Wood, who is a professor at the University of Iowa.

Will retired from the Navy in 1991 and began a 25-year career in the power generation industry. He and Catherine were very active in their church, where Will was often an inspirational Sunday School teacher.

Will loved to play golf and was an excellent golfer with many close friends at their golf club.

Will and Catherine enjoyed quite a few cruises in the Caribbean, across the Atlantic and to the Holy Land with other classmates.

Will is survived by his wife, Catherine; his daughter, Susannah; and his sister, Harriet Wood.

A memorial service for Will was held at Dunwoody (GA) Baptist Church, followed by military honors and inurnment in the church columbarium on 19 January 2024. ★



FRANCIS KEVIN HOLIAN '68

Rear Admiral "Fran" Holian, USN (Ret.), passed away at his home in San Diego, CA, on 17 November 2023. He was 78 years old.

Fran was born in Chelsea, MA, to Dorothy Thelma (née Smith) and James Joseph Holian. James' career as a naval submariner and Mustang officer took the family to Oahu, where Fran began a lifelong love of surfing and sailing. Entering the Naval Academy in 1964, Fran's sense of humor and ready smile forged lifelong friendships, his strong leadership instincts

immediately impressed his superiors as well as his peers. He competed on the swimming and sailing teams and was twice selected to command the 31st Company. Although academics were not his strong suit, he was proud to claim that he "graduated in the top 80% of his class."

Commissioned an ensign in June 1968, Fran embarked on a highly successful career in Surface Warfare. At sea, he had three command tours: FORTIFY (MSO-446), FLETCHER (DD-992) and FOX (CG-33). Along the way, he married his lifelong love, Carol Olney, in 1974 at Makalapa Chapel on Oahu. Ashore, Fran served as head of Navy congressional liaison to the Defense Appropriations Committees, where he worked closely with senior naval and congressional leaders. Selected for flag rank in 1991, Fran was assigned as Commander Naval Base San Diego followed by Commander Training, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

His awards include the Legion of Merit (4,) Meritorious Service Medal (2) Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V and the Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V.

After retiring from the Navy in 1996, Fran joined Northrop Grumman Corporation, serving as a vice president in Annapolis, MD. Fran entered

"active retirement" in 2007, moving back to San Diego and joining the boards of directors of the former Naval Training Center (now Liberty Station), United Through Reading and the Maritime Museum of San Diego.

Fran was predeceased by his parents, Jim and Dot; and brothers, Jimmy and Jack. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Carol; daughters, Mara Lowry (and her husband, Adam) of Mill Valley, CA, and Kelly Duncan (and her husband, John Mark) of Seattle, WA; granddaughters, Kenning, Ryan and Hattie; and grandson, William.

A Celebration ofLife is planned for Spring of 2024.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to United Through Reading (www.unitedthroughreading.org); the American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org); or a charity of your choice. ★



WILLIAM JOSEPH LAZ JR. '69

Captain William J. Laz, USN (Ret.), died of pancreatic cancer in Virginia Beach, VA, on 4 January 2024.

Born on the "mighty, muddy banks of the Fox River" in Aurora, IL, in 1947, "Bill" attended West Aurora High School prior to receiving a SecNav appointment to the Naval Academy. Bill "Lazer" Laz was a hard-core member of the YP Squadron, commanding the Second Battalion YP, BEER FOAM, his First Class Year.

This was a precursor of his 30-year career as a Surface Warfare Officer. He graduated as a member of 10th Company.

Prior to commencing his seagoing career, Bill completed the Nuclear Propulsion pipeline via Vallejo, CA, and Idaho Falls, ID. His first assignment was as gunnery officer in CHARLES P. CECIL (DD-835), which spent months on the Vietnam gun line and sailed around the world from her homeport in Newport, RI. A string of shipboard billets followed: ENTERPRISE (CVAN-65), BARNEY (DDG-6), MISSISSIPPI (CGN-40), CARL VINSON (CVN-70), TRUXTUN (CGN-35); chief engineer, NIMITZ (CVN-68); CO, DAHLGREN (DDG-43); and his final command, in the Golden Anchor/Battle E winning, MISSISSIPPI (CGN-40).

When Bill retired from the Navy, he had over 22 years of continuous sea duty. All his "shore" duty was neutral duty in pre-commissioning units, as commanding officer of the LantFlt Surface Nuclear Propulsion Mobil Training Team and as the senior member of the CinCLantFlt Propulsion Examining Board.

Bill went to work for Newport News Shipbuilding. He worked on the design team for the FORD (CVN-78) class, but the majority of his time was spent in research and development. Bill once again became "Lazer" as he led the NNS team that made the initial investigations into inserting laser weapons systems in the CVN-78 class. On an alternate energy task, he and his team received three patents on the Tuned Rolling Wave Energy Extractor, which turned wave energy into electricity. He also worked with NRL on a project turning salt water into diesel marine fuel.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of 55 years, Marcia Laz, and their daughters, Jennifer L. Laz-Hurt, Jessica L. Laz-Smith, Allison L. Powers and Amanda A. Laz. He was so very proud of his grandchildren, Landry, Chase, Brady, Emerson, Cash, Elise and Penelope.

Funeral services were held on 15 January 2024 in Chesapeake, VA, followed by burial with full military honors on 23 January 2024 at Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery in Suffolk, VA. ★

MEMORIAL AFFAIRS RESOURCES
usna.com/memorial-affairs



FREDERIC GEORGE KRAPF III '70

Frederic G. Krapf III passed away peacefully on 20 August 2023, after a short illness and a fall.

With three Freds in the Krapf family, the third was given the nickname, "Mickey," as a young boy. It wasn't until he started at The Tatnall School that he was able to regain "Fred" as his moniker. Fred thrived at Tatnall and the U.S. Naval Academy and then he added another name to his collection, "Dad."

Under any name, he had a robust career in construction, real estate management and marine operations, but his true love was being a father.

He loved to support his children (and later, grandchildren) on the field and at the rink as spectator, coach and replay companion in their athletic games. His love of sports was unwavering. He was a player himself, but he also loved watching college football. *Go Navy, Beat Army!*

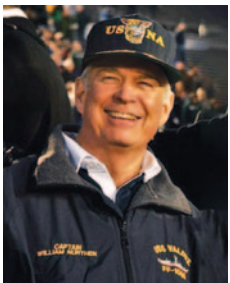
Fred loved to be on the water. He collected boats of all sizes, from speed boats to boats with oars, and he knew how to build and fix any kind of engine (that is until every new engine included a computer.) He was old school. His knowledge was impressive and execution meticulous. He could place even the smallest of screws with his huge hands that were like baseball mitts. Boating brought him to the places he held dear. He loved cruising the Chesapeake Bay, the Bahamas and the Florida Keys while listening to The Beach Boys.

If he couldn't get somewhere by boat, the next choice was by airplane. He had a strong love of flying, obtaining his pilot's license before his driver's license. This QB was an accomplished pilot in private and corporate planes. Whether soaring in the sky or shooting the sh*t with buddies in the hangar over coffee on a Sunday morning, he loved all things pertaining to flight.

He ultimately became "Captain Granddad," which true to Fred's history, was shortened to "Cap." Cap was the quintessential storybook figure for his grandsons, who provided a space for him to share his love of sports, boating and fishing.

Fred/Mickey/Dad/Cap will be remembered by his family as a straight shooter (literally and figuratively.) His family, Kristina (Larry), Winston and Harris Sullivan and Freddie Krapf (Angie) will miss him and remember his wise words: to do things because you want to, not because you are supposed to.

The Krapf Family ★



WILLIAM AUGUSTINE NURTHEN II '70

Captain William A. Nurthen II, USN (Ret.), of Ocean Township, NJ, passed peacefully, surrounded by his family, after a brief illness on 31 October 2023. He was 74.

"Bill" was born on 21 November 1948 in Philadelphia, PA, to William Augustine Nurthen and Virginia Kane (Lee) Nurthen. He cherished his childhood growing up in Ridley Park, PA, and graduated in the class of 1966 from St. James Catholic High School in Chester, PA. Bill was inducted into the St. James Wall of

Honor for his lifetime career achievements.

Bill accepted an appointment to the United States Naval Academy and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering in the Class of 1970. He received a master's degree in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. He served 27 years in the United States Navy, achieving the rank of captain before retiring in 1997. His naval career included service on surface warships, destroyer squadrons and two tours at the Pentagon. His greatest achievements included being appointed captain of VALDEZ (FF-1096) and major command at Military Sealift Command Atlantic (MSCLANT) in Bayonne, NJ.

After retiring from the Navy, Bill started a second career at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, where he worked for 17 years and held various leadership positions. He worked in World Trade Center I and

was a survivor of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. His careers with both the U.S. Navy and the Port Authority took him around the world. He loved sharing stories of his adventures with his family and friends, especially over a martini or a nice glass of wine.

Bill was a devout Catholic and parishioner at St. Jerome Church in West Long Branch, NJ. He served on the pastoral council and as a lector and eucharistic minister. Bill was truly the kindest man you could ever meet and would always send you on your way with a "God Bless You."

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Donna Simonetti Nurthen; their five children, William Nurthen III (Jennifer), Nancy Nurthen (Jenelle), Kathleen Strongarone (Scott), Jeanne Jones (Kevin) and Patrick Nurthen; 11 grandchildren who adored their "Papa," Emma, Lily, Julia, William IV, Paul, Lucy, Haley, Mila, Miriam, Brendan and Michael; two brothers, Jeremiah and John; and a sister, Martha. Bill was predeceased by his parents; and sisters, Mary Patience, Therese, and Jinny.

Go Navy, Beat Army! ★



THOMAS RICHARD MORSE '74

Thomas R. Morse of Chester Springs, PA, passed away on 13 January 2024 at home, surrounded by family, following a 14-month battle against glioblastoma. He was 72 years old.

Born in Decatur, IL, "Tom" graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy to become a nuclear submariner. His first assignment was NAUTILUS (SSN-571), and he served on NEW YORK CITY (SSN-696), which was built in Groton, CT. He ended his naval career as aide to Vice Admiral Kenneth Carr '49.

He then earned his MBA at Wharton and spent his entire professional career as a venture capitalist in Philadelphia, PA, lastly as founder of Liberty Venture Partners.

Tom was a former treasurer and trustee of The Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia.

He enjoyed traveling, hiking, sailing, swimming and studying history.

Tom is survived by his wife of 49 years, Jan (Smith); their children, Henry "Hank" Morse and Ellen Morse, both of Chester Springs, PA; mother, Sarah LaCost Morse of Findlay IL; siblings, Rebecca Decker (Daniel) of Weston CT, Pamela Lulman (Philip) of Calgary, Alberta, and Timothy Morse (Lori) of Shelbyville, IL; and many nieces and nephews. His father, Richard H. Morse, predeceased him.

Private services will be conducted at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Tom's memory may be made to Penn Medicine's Brain Tumor Lab Support Fund (<http://tinyurl.com/Penn-Brain-Tumor-Lab>). By check: Brain Tumor Lab Support Fund, Penn Medicine Development Attn: Sheryl Garton 3535 Market St., Ste 750 Philadelphia, PA 19104; Please make payable to "Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania," noting "in memory of Thomas Morse;" or The Eagles Autism Foundation (www.eaglesautismchallenge.org). Please select the donate tab, then choose "The Event."

The Morse Family ★



DAVID THOMAS KERRICK '76

Colonel David T. Kerrick, USMC (Ret.), died in Chesapeake, VA, on 13 Dec 2023 after a valiant battle with cancer. He was one day shy of 69.

"Dave" was born in Elizabethtown, KY, to Mayme (Hiser) Kerrick and Paul Edward Kerrick. In high school, he was a member of E'town's first ever basketball team to play in the Kentucky state championship. He reported to USNA in 1972. Majoring in oceanography, Dave shined on the intramural basketball court, where he captained the 18th Company Brigade

champion team First Class year.

Upon graduation, Dave was commissioned a Marine Corps second lieutenant. After earning his Wings in Pensacola, FL, Dave detoured back to Annapolis in July 1978 to marry Sarah Petit, whom he met Plebe year.

He then headed to MCAS New River, NC, where he began a 20-year relationship with the venerable CH-46 Sea Knight. Fleet assignments included HMM-264 at New River and both HMM-265 and HMM-364 at Kaneohe Bay, HI. He also served a flight instructor tour in VT-2. The culmination of Dave's flying years was command of the HMM-264 Black Knights, in which he led the largest air combat element ever formed in a Marine Expeditionary Unit (41 aircraft and 500 Marines and sailors). Throughout his years in the Fleet, Dave deployed seven times with the Amphibious Navy – literally around the world (he made port calls in Mombasa in both East and West Coast MEUs!)—and supported operations in Iraq, Bosnia and Haiti.

Outside the cockpit, Dave served with 2nd ANGLICO and performed staff tours at Headquarters Marine Corps and U.S. Central Command. He graduated from the Naval War College, U.S. Army Airborne School and the Marine Corps Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course. His 28 years in the Marine Corps concluded with assignment as Deputy Commander, Naval Safety Center.

After the Marine Corps, Dave returned to the Safety Center as a program manager until retirement from the federal government. Throughout his decades of naval service, Dave was the consummate teacher, mentor, leader... and friend. He was kind, humble and selfless; and he always did what was right.

Preceded in death by his parents and brother, Ken, Dave is survived by Sarah Kerrick, his wife of 45 years; daughter, Erin Akamine (Robert); son, Preston Kerrick; brother, William Kerrick; sister, Sara Bachert (Scott); brother-in-law, Bruce Petit '76 (Carol); and sister-in-law, Barb Rudolph (Gary).

The Kerrick & Petit Families ★



HARRY PAUL WARD '84

Lieutenant Colonel Harry P. Ward, USMC (Ret.), a patriot and gentleman for all his days, died after a tragic accident in Annapolis, MD, on 16 December 2023.

Born on 11 December 1960 in Gouverneur, NY, to (the late) Thomas E. Ward and Simone M. Ward, Harry graduated from Gouverneur High School (1978) and Bridgeton Academy (1979) as valedictorian. He graduated from the Naval Academy (1984) as the Sixth Battalion Commander and a proud member of the 34th

Company (Club 34). In 2000, he earned a master's degree in Manpower Systems Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School.

From USNA forward, he served in leadership roles. As a naval flight officer (callsign "Dirty Harry"), he flew 100 combat missions over Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Persian Gulf and elsewhere. Harry was also a bombardier/navigator in the A-6 Intruder and flew in F-3 Tornados as an exchange officer with the Royal Air Force. He was a forward air controller in close combat operations during the Gulf War (1991), where he led 1,000 officers and Marines, including the first infantry company, to enter Kuwait City.

During his 20 years of service, he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V (2) for "grace under fire," the Combat Action Ribbon, and most notably, the Legion of Merit, which recognizes his "total dedication to duty" and "upholding the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service."

In military retirement, Harry founded his own human resources consulting company, followed by joining the Federal civil service.

With infectious enthusiasm, Harry was a humble, loyal, genuine friend to many. From the day Suzy and Harry met, they became best friends, each the love of the other's life and soulmates. He will be greatly missed by all.

Memorial services and interment took place at the Naval Academy on 8 March 2024.

In lieu of flowers or donations, Harry's family would welcome a favorite memory or photo of Harry to be sent to (suzybyrnes@gmail.com). We will forever remember Harry for his generous heart and favorite greeting, "Hey Partner!"

Harry is survived by his loving wife, Suzy Ward; her son, Jack; his son, Brittain; his daughter, Tayler (and her husband, Miles Coffin); granddaughter, Goldie; his mother, Simone Ward; his brothers, Tom, Dick, Jason and Jonathon; and his father- and mother-in-law, Ray and Carol Byrnes. ★



TERRY LANE WILTON '77

Lieutenant Commander Terry L. Wilton, USN (Ret.), passed away peacefully at Gilchrist Hospice Care on 15 January 2024.

A 1977 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Terry entered flight training and then received his NFO Wings in the spring of 1978. Initially assigned to training in the A-6E Intruder at Attack Squadron VA-128 in Whidbey Island, WA, he requested and was granted a change of designator to Restricted Line—Special Duty Intelligence (1630).

Terry's sea duty tours included two overseas deployments with Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron VAQ-134 aboard NIMITZ (CVN-68), which included involvement in the movie, "The Final Countdown," and the 1980 Operation Eagle Claw Iranian hostage rescue attempt; one partial deployment with VAQ-134 aboard CONSTELLATION (CV-64); and two overseas deployments as Air Wing 17 (CVW-17) intelligence officer aboard SARATOGA (CV-60).

His shore tours included three years on the watch floor at the Navy Field Operational Intelligence Office (NFOIO) in Suitland, MD; one year at the then-Defense Intelligence College (at Bolling AFB in Washington, DC), where he received a master's degree in Strategic Intelligence; three years at the International Programs Office at Commander Naval Intelligence Command (ComNavIntCom) in Suitland, MD; two years at the CIA (liaison officer at Project Tsunami); and a split tour in Pearl Harbor, HI, as officer-in-charge of the Office of Naval Intelligence's (ONI's) Pacific Forward Support Team (PacFast), and then as the special programs manager in the N2 (Intelligence) Division at the headquarters of Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (CinCPacFlt) in Pearl Harbor.

Upon his retirement in 1994, Terry continued to support naval intelligence as a contractor at Suitland, supporting the Maritime Systems Program Management Office (MSPMO-ONI-34) for 14 years (1995-2009) as mission planner, and then the Special Platforms Division (ONI-N312) from 2009-2022 as logistics coordinator.

Terry's main hobby was Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddling, which he learned during his two tours in Pearl Harbor.

Terry is survived by his ex-wife, Sarah; their sons, Matthew and Michael; and two granddaughters, Grace and Riley.

The Wilton Family ★



MICHAEL JOHN OTTINGER '85

Captain Michael J. Ottinger, USN (Ret.), passed away on 18 December 2023 at his home in Washington, DC, under the care of his loving and devoted wife, Holly, after a long decline due to Primary Progressive Aphasia Frontotemporal dementia (FTD). He was 61 years old.

Born on 6 November 1962 in Coronado, CA, he was the eldest son of Gordon and the late Susan (Eldredge) Ottinger. He grew up in Mobile, AL, where he developed lifelong friendships at Davidson High School (class of

1981). He also was a proud Eagle Scout.

Michael graduated from the United States Naval Academy with the Class of 1985, after which he went on to pursue a career in naval aviation, flying the A-6 Intruder with VA-75 and VA-145. He flew many missions during Middle East conflicts off RANGER and ENTERPRISE, during which he flew the last nighttime operational flight of an A-6. He transitioned to the large E-6 aircraft out of TACAMO and then after a year of shore duty in Bahrain, switched over to a career in international affairs at the Navy International Programs Office and OpNav. He discovered a second passion for working with international partners.

LAST CALL

He was an avid reader, loved history, music and the outdoors, all of which led to his enjoyment of travel with his wife, Holly. With her help, he was able to squeeze in as many new experiences and outdoor opportunities as possible with his early onset dementia diagnosis.

Michael is survived by his wife, Holly Haverstick; two sons, Michael Scott Ottinger and Dr. Mark Ottinger, DVM; his father, Gordon Ottinger of Columbiana, AL; his brother (and sister-in-law), Marc Ottinger (Susan) of Columbiana, AL; uncle, David Eldredge of Salt Lake City, UT; and other extended family. He was a wonderful, kind and caring soul and as a result, is leaving many friends, neighbors, caregivers and acquaintances with whom he left a lasting impression.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Iona Senior Services, 4125 Albemarle St. NW, Washington, DC 20016-2105 (www.iona.org) or Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, 5159 Langston Boulevard, Arlington VA 22207 (www.luckydoganimalrescue.org).

Inurnment took place at the Naval Academy Columbarium on 22 January 2024. ★



PATRICK WALSH SKORA '02

Commander Patrick W. Skora, USNR (Ret.), departed this world at his home in Boulder, CO, on 20 December 2023.

As a proud native of San Diego, CA, Patrick often spoke of his hometown as "the greatest city in the world." Born with a strong sense of duty and a compassionate spirit, he embodied the values of loyalty, kindness and selflessness throughout his remarkable life.

Upon graduating from Point Loma High School in 1998, Patrick received his appointment to the Naval Academy. At Annapolis, he was a respected member of the 9th and 29th companies and served as the leader of the Catholic Midshipmen's Club during his First Class Year. In 2002, Patrick chose to dedicate himself to surface warfare and graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics.

Patrick served on multiple warships and earned his master's degree at the Naval Postgraduate School. Patrick's commitment to excellence continued as he was selected to serve on the 7th Fleet Command Ship, BLUE RIDGE. After leaving active duty, he pursued an MBA at the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University, graduating in 2017. While beginning his civilian career, Patrick continued to honorably serve his country in the Naval Reserve, retiring in 2022.

In the private sector, Patrick embraced a new chapter with Google, where he worked diligently in the company's financial arm at their headquarters in Mountain View, CA. In 2022, he left California for the mountains of Colorado, continuing his work for Google as a senior manager.

Outside the professional realm, Patrick's heart overflowed with compassion for our four-legged friends. A devoted dog lover, he actively participated in local dog shelters and rescues, opening his home to countless foster dogs over the years. Patrick's loving and nurturing nature was reflected in his commitment to these animals.

Leaving behind a legacy of love, service and camaraderie, Patrick is survived by his mother, Joyce Dixon; brothers, Andrew and Philip; his loyal canine companion, Goose; extended family, Marilyn and Henry DeFrancesca, Claire Dillio, and Camille Dillio; and numerous friends whose lives were touched by his unwavering kindness, empathy and generosity.

In our hearts, Patrick's memory will forever shine as a beacon of inspiration, reminding us to live with purpose, love wholeheartedly and to always be willing to extend a helping hand to those in need.

Services will take place at USNA's St. Andrew's Chapel on 11 April 2024 at 10:30 a.m., followed by inurnment at the USNA Columbarium. ★



JOSE LUIS RESENDEZ '19

Lieutenant Jose L. Resendez, USN, died on 4 January 2024 of natural causes in Norfolk, VA.

"Joey" was born on 19 September 1995 in Austin, TX, to Manuel Resendez Jr. and Griselda "Chris" Brent and grew up in El Paso, TX. He attended St. Pius X Catholic Elementary School and graduated from Cathedral High School, where he was a standout football player and a member of the track and field team. In his senior year, he coached the St. Patrick's boys' basketball team to the

diocesan championship. Joey graduated with distinction from Cathedral in 2014 and received an appointment to the Naval Academy. While at Annapolis, this young man of the desert was on the Academy's sailing team and his crew competitively sailed from Annapolis to Bermuda in record time. He was always proud of saying he was the only D1 athlete in the family. He also competed in intermural boxing and made it to the Navy Brigade Championship in the heavyweight division.

After graduating from USNA in 2019, he joined the Fleet, where he was a highly respected and decorated surface warfare officer. His first ship was TRUXTUN (DDG-103), and at the time of his death, he was assigned to LEYTE GULF (CG-55).

His sudden death has left his family, and the many friends he acquired in his short life, heartbroken. Joey was always the life of the party, the "ride or die" friend and the standout in all he did. Although he lived a short life, it was a life of purpose and adventure. Joey was never one to deny himself a challenge or an experience and that zeal for life was contagious to anyone lucky enough to be in his presence. He had an amazing sense of humor, a quick and enviable intelligence, and a gentleness and kindness rarely found. Words simply cannot capture the deep pain his death has brought to those who loved him. He had a beautiful and genuine smile, a huge heart and a generous nature. He never met a stranger, as he befriended everyone he met. We will miss his bear hugs, his humility and his infectious laughter.

Joey is survived by his devoted and loving father, Manuel Resendez Jr. (Maureen); mother, Chris Brent (Don); brother, Manuel III; his bonus siblings, Henry, Steven, Ann Marie and Stacy; grandmother, Rosita Resendez; many aunts, uncles, cousins; and innumerable friends.

Fair Winds and Following Seas, Joey. Rest in Paradise. ★

LAST CALL GUIDELINES

There is no cost and no timeline, however we have a maximum limit of 400 words. Submissions will be edited for style and a draft will be returned for family approval prior to publication—please be sure to include contact information.

Obituaries may be emailed to: obits@usna.com (preferred) or USPS mailed to:

*Shipmate Obituaries
301 King George St.
Annapolis, MD 21402*

*Questions regarding obituaries, please contact:
Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury
410-295-4064 or obits@usna.com*

MISCELLANY

SOLAIRE®
INFRARED GRILLING
The Best, Hot Tailgate Grills!

Ready to sear in just 3 minutes

www.SolaireTailgate.com
Coupon Code "USNA16" at checkout

Rett Rasmussen USNA '82 562-822-0755
rett@rasmussen.biz www.rasmussen.biz

MISCELLANY

MEVISTO
Gemstones from
hair or ashes
Weddings
Pets
Loved ones

www.mevisto.com
Military 10% discount
Use code BaronF
Bernd Foerster '75
904-683-9550

MISCELLANY

CAGE #840W9

SQUADRON Nostalgia

SHOP MILITARY

AIRCRAFT MODELS

Nathan Rocklein '00

CONTACT US: (804) 376-7461
squadronnostalgia.com

2024 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Black and White Classified Ad Rates
SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$ 77.00	1"	\$ 60.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$154.00	2"	\$120.00	
	\$230.00	3"	\$180.00	
	\$310.00	4"	\$240.00	
	\$385.00	5"	\$300.00	
	\$460.00	6"	\$360.00	
	\$540.00	7"	\$420.00	
	\$545.00	8"	\$485.00	



Color Classified Ad Rates
SIZE

Non-LifeMember Rates	\$100.00	1"	\$ 70.00	25% LifeMember Discount Rates
	\$195.00	2"	\$145.00	
	\$300.00	3"	\$215.00	
	\$395.00	4"	\$285.00	
	\$495.00	5"	\$355.00	
	\$595.00	6"	\$430.00	
	\$695.00	7"	\$500.00	
	\$790.00	8"	\$580.00	

2024 SHIPMATE Classified Information & Insertion Order

Classified Advertising Policy

Classified ads are accepted on a space available basis as a service to **USNA Alumni** only. The Alum's name and class year **MUST** appear in the ad. Spouse ads are accepted only with the Alum's name and class year included in the ad. Ads are accepted camera-ready and electronically; jpg., tif. or PDF formats. (300 dpi) Any classified ad may occupy one column width (2.5 inches) by a maximum of up to 8 inches of column length.

1 Advertiser

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Daytime Phone _____
Email _____
Class Year _____

2 Advertisement

Classified ad rates are \$77 per inch for black and white and \$100 per inch for color. A \$50 set up fee is charged if ad is designed for advertiser. **Life Members** are eligible for a 25% discount—reducing the cost to \$60 per inch for black and white and \$70 for color.

Please select the issue(s) in which you wish to run, or specify: RFN -"Run Until Further Notice."

Issue	Insertion Order/Ad Due
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan-Feb 2024	11/13/23
<input type="checkbox"/> Mar-April 2024	01/16/24
<input type="checkbox"/> May-June 2024	03/14/243
<input type="checkbox"/> July-Aug 2024	05/21/24
<input type="checkbox"/> Sept-Oct 2024	07/23/24
<input type="checkbox"/> Nov-Dec 2024	09/20/24

3 Payment and Billing

Please charge my Discover/Visa/MasterCard/American Express

Total \$ _____ per issue
Credit Card No. _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____

Payment information must accompany order.
Email Insertion Order and ad files to:
maria.oshea@usna.com

USNA Alumni Association mailing address:
Attn: Maria O'Shea
301 King George Street
Annapolis, MD 21402

Call me with your questions: **410-295-4074**

Please contact Maria O'Shea via email or phone for space availability — even if the due date has passed, I will try to be as flexible as possible.

Publisher
Jeff Webb '95; jeff.webb@usna.com

Editor
Jimmy DeButts; jimmy.debutts@usna.com

Editorial
Assistant Editor
Spencer Jones; spencer.jones@usna.com

Assistant Editor
Anne Sharpe; anne.sharpe@usna.com

Design and Production
Art Director/Production Manager
Jackie Furton; jackie.furton@usna.com

Assistant Production Manager/Classes Editor
Maria O'Shea; maria.oshea@usna.com

Chapter, SIGs and Classes Editor
Sandra Stansbury-Spadaro
sandy.spadaro@usna.com

Obituaries Editor
Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury
timothy.woodbury@usna.com

Copyeditors
Captain Andrew Wilson '77, USNR (Ret.)
Kat Braz

Contributing Editor
Captain David Poyer '71, USNR (Ret.)

Contributing Photographers
Captain Laura Hatcher '92, USN (Ret.)
Debbie Latta and Kelly Eskelsen

Contact Shipmate
410-295-4000 Main
410-295-4074 Classified Advertising
404-634-2351 Display Advertising
410-295-4000 Address Updates/Corrections

Submissions
Editorial shipmate@usna.com
Address Change/Delivery alumni@usna.com
Bravo Zulu shipmate@usna.com
Class Payments checkrequest@usna.com
Chapter Columns★ chapternews@usna.com
Class Columns★ classnews@usna.com
Obituaries obits@usna.com
SACC Program sacc@usna.com
Register of Alumni registerofalumni@usna.com
★ For Secretary use only, please

Address emails to individual staff as follows:
first name . last name @ usna.com

CONTACT US
U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation
301 King George St., Annapolis, MD 21402
Main Phone 410-295-4000
Foundation Development 410-295-4100
Athletic & Scholarship Dev. 410-295-4095

Opinions expressed in Shipmate are those of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions, policy or attitude of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation, its officers or editorial staff. All pictures are official Department of Defense photographs unless otherwise credited. Member, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Shipmate (ISSN 0488-6720) is published six times a year (January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October and November-December). Copyrighted 2024 by the United States Naval Academy Alumni Association, Inc., 301 King George Street, Annapolis, MD 21402-1306. Membership dues (including Shipmate) are \$70 per year. Subscription rate is \$70; Canadian and foreign subscriptions are \$75. Single copies are \$10 each. Periodicals Postage Paid at Annapolis, MD, and at additional mailing offices.

All editorial matter should be addressed to Jimmy DeButts, p: 410-295-4085, jimmy.debutts@usna.com. Inquiries concerning membership or subscriptions and notification of change of address of members and subscribers should be addressed to U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association, 301 King George St., Annapolis, MD 21402-1306; p: 410-295-4062; alumni@usna.com.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Jeff Webb '95 *President/CEO* 410-295-4090
Kara Fagley *Executive Administrator for the President* 410-295-4092

ENGAGEMENT

TJ Grady '96 410-295-4041
Executive Vice President, Engagement and Communications

Nancy Murray 410-295-4049
Sr. Director, Alumni Engagement and Outreach

Isaac Phillips '19 410-295-4036
Director, Online Engagement and SIGs

Wendy Owen 410-295-4017
Director, Class Programs

Lori Coogan 410-295-4038
Director, Parent Programs

Carrie Carroll 410-295-4062
Membership/Records Assistant

Debbie O'Donnell 410-295-4052
Member Services Coordinator

Kathleen Rohrs 410-295-4044
Member Services Coordinator

Amy Garwood 410-295-4015
Director, Alumni Travel

Wes Huey '87 410-295-4023
Executive Dir., Strategy and Legacy Programs

Gwenn Dennis 410-295-4091
Director, Memorial Affairs

Mike Lowe '98 410-295-4106
Director, Alumni Career Programs

Service Academy Career Conference
Tonya McGinnis 410-295-4022
Director, SACC

Melissa Nelson 410-295-4021
Manager, SACC

COMMUNICATIONS

John Schofield 410-295-4080
Executive Director of Communications

Emily Lucht 410-295-4047
Director, Digital Communications

Jackie Furton 410-295-4073
Art Director

Heather Payne 410-295-4033
Creative Director of Communications

Grace Doerfler 410-295-4018
Graphic Designer

Jimmy DeButts 410-295-4085
Editor

Anne Sharpe 410-295-4078
Assistant Director, Communications

Maria O'Shea 410-295-4074
Assistant Production Manager

Sandra Stansbury-Spadaro 410-295-4076
Communications Specialist

Spencer Jones 410-295-4026
Communications Specialist

Sarah Trimmer 410-295-4077
Digital Communications Coordinator

Timothy Elizabeth Woodbury 410-295-4064
Memorial Affairs Manager

FLUEGEL ALUMNI CENTER

Don Kennedy '92 410-295-4063
Senior Director, Events and Facilities

Scott Gaiser '05 410-295-4068
Dir., Real Estate and Facilities Maintenance

Elizabeth Beedenbender 410-295-4166
Dir., Enterprise Operations, Fluegel Alumni Center

John Cooper 410-295-4031
Facilities Manager

John Taylor 410-295-4029
Facilities Assistant

Cyndi Morgan '93 410-295-4024
Facilities Worker

Alexandra Dooley 410-295-4012
Director, Enterprise Events and Marketing

Bridgette Lundfelt 410-295-4030
Assistant Director, Event Sales and Marketing

Laura Cylc 410-295-4014
Events Coordinator

Kylie Freeburger 410-295-4081
Events Coordinator

Danielle Milanelle 410-295-4054
Events Coordinator

FLUEGEL ALUMNI CENTER CONTINUED

Judy Buddensick 443-994-2511
Partnership Marketing Liaison

TREASURY AND OPERATIONS

Robert "Bob" Gast Jr. 410-295-4040
Executive Vice President and CFO

Lisa Strobel 410-295-4051
Sr. Director, Finance and Treasury Operations

Kevin Mitchell 410-295-4039
Director, Treasury, Analytics & Investment Reporting

Tim Smith 410-295-4059
Director, Financial Reporting

Linda Reyes 410-295-4056
Director, Revenue Specialist

Janet Douglas 410-295-4057
Staff Accountant

Stephanie St. Clair 410-295-4058
Staff Accountant

Patricia "Patty" Ratigan 410-295-4028
Staff Accountant

Dawn Beach 410-295-4177
Payroll Manager

Gift Administration Team

Victoria Sever 410-295-4122
Director, Gift Administration

Elvira Reyes 410-295-4116
Gift Administrator II

Gladys Sanchez 410-295-4112
Gift Administrator

Ashley Clark 410-295-4117
Data Support Specialist

Information Technology

Garrett Keating 410-295-4087
Director, Information Technology

Jordan Bailey 410-295-4060
Sr. Assoc. Dir., Enterprise Network and Security

Denise Clark 410-295-4079
Associate Director, Data Services

Derrick Planz 410-295-4067
Associate Director, Software Developer

Rick Clark 410-295-4088
Associate Director, Information Technology

Sean Henson 410-295-4083
AV Technician

Dustin Tripp 410-295-4086
Security Specialist

Ryan Haddaway 410-295-4089
Help Desk Technician

Ashley Norfolk 410-295-4084
SQL Application Developer

Umar Gbadamosi 410-295-4082
SQL Database Engineer

HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. Joy Jones 410-295-4048
Senior Director, Human Resources

Tom Cloutier 410-295-4050
Senior Manager, Human Resources

Nan Hooe 410-295-4045
Benefits Specialist

DEVELOPMENT

Bill O'Connor 410-295-4101
Executive Vice President

Abby Repko 410-295-4103
Exec. Administrator/Principal Gift Administrator

John Rudder '78 410-295-4191
Senior Advisor

Rusty Yeiser '74 410-295-4174
Senior Advisor

Kristen Furlong 410-295-4121
Assistant Dir., Corporate and Foundation Relations

Erin Pelletier 410-295-4106
Principal Gift Strategist

Major Gifts

Michael Hoffman 410-295-4184
Vice President, Development

Ashley "AJ" Bauer 410-295-4160
Managing Regional Director of Development

Rob Lias 410-295-4053
Assistant Director of Regional Development

STAFF AND ASSISTANCE

DEVELOPMENT CONTINUED

Mariah Sakellaris 410-295-4187
Assistant Director of Regional Development

John Maconi 410-295-4185
Regional Director of Development

Dean Castaldo 410-295-4052
Senior Regional Director, Development

Chelsea Clute 410-295-4123
Regional Director of Development

Ted Ahrens 410-295-4183
Regional Director of Development

Lexxie Monahan 410-295-4128
Regional Director of Development

Anissa Kossakowski 410-295-4182
Regional Director of Development

Misie King 410-295-4178
Admin. Manager of Development

Ashley Register 410-295-4178
Admin. Coordinator, Regional Development

Prospect Development and Research

Elizabeth Root 410-295-4126
Director, Prospect Development and Research

Annie Ferry 410-295-4120
Asst. Dir., Prospect Development and Research

Jenna Tonking 410-295-4109
Asst. Dir., Development Analytics and Research

Planned Giving

Carol Rognrud 410-295-4110
Director, Planned Giving

Jennifer Macris 410-295-4105
Assistant Director, Planned Giving

Jodi Reilly 410-295-4114
Administrative Coordinator, Planned Giving

Annual Programs

Gabrielle Kulcsar 410-295-4147
Executive Director, Annual Giving Programs

Dan Quattrini '81 410-295-4167
Director, Class Legacy Gift Programs

Megan Farmer 410-295-4188
Director, President's Circle

Sara Brown 410-295-4130
Coordinator, Class Giving Programs

Donor Relations and Stewardship

Natalie Brianas 410-295-4102
Executive Dir., Donor Relations and Stewardship

Travis Galaska 410-295-4111
Assoc. Dir., Donor Relations and Stewardship

Hannah Geib 410-295-4127
Assoc. Dir., Campaign Operations

Nicolle Teixeira 410-295-4181
Director, Donor Relations and Stewardship

Sarah Jane Dunaway 410-295-4124
Assoc. Dir., Development Communications

Jamie Janette 410-295-4113
Coordinator, Donor Relations and Stewardship

Strategic Advancement Resources

Adriana Bitoun 410-295-4150
Executive Director of STAR Team

Beth Spicer 410-295-4149
Director, Information Management and Reporting

Shirley Crawford 410-295-4071
STAR Project Coordinator

FOUNDATION ATHLETIC AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Don Hughes '88 410-295-4096
Vice President

Tracey Cook 410-295-4164
Director

Mariola Baker 410-295-4098
Assistant Director

QUICK REFERENCE

Death Notifications obits@usna.com
410-295-4064

Class Ring Information classrings@usna.com

Register of Alumni registerofalumni@usna.com

Address Change/Delivery alumni@usna.com
410-295-4000

Donate 410-295-4115

Membership Updates 410-295-4000

USNA Main Phone 410-293-1000

U.S. Naval Academy Athletics 410-293-2700

ENABLING GLOBAL WARFIGHTING EFFECTIVENESS

**PROUD TO SUPPORT MILITARY SEALIFT
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME,
ANY CONDITION**

