

**From:** USNA Class of 1985 [<mailto:replies@smtp.usna.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, 23 December, 2021 16:11

**To:** CDR Steven L. Rauch, USN (Ret.) <[rjsqrl@gmail.com](mailto:rjsqrl@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Merry Christmas and Happy New Years to '85

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Class of '85,

All in all, it has been a really good year for our class. We strengthened our Company Rep program, kicked off a very successful Class Fundraising project where we are over 70% of our goal already, and of course, we enjoyed an amazing Class 35th Reunion (after a few false starts). The Navy Football team played perhaps its toughest schedule in history and came away with a few really good wins, some competitive losses and of course, the “season making” victory over the Army Black Knights. So, take a few minutes and enjoy being a member of this class and congratulate yourselves. NOW, this email is all about me giving back to this Class after this great year, I am announcing the kickoff of our Class of 1985 travel packages to the Emerald Isle in August of 2023. I have been working with our friends at Tenon Tours and we have put together some really nice packages to choose from for travel to the Navy/Notre Dame game on August 27, 2023. From 3 Day packages to Packages as long as you like are being offered. The hotels in Dublin are top notch and the price point starts at \$500 below Anthony Travel and is much much better in terms of quality. For those of you who went in 2012, or those of you who had to cancel in 2020, you know that Tenon Tours is definitely a “SUPER” and a quality company. The link below will take you to their site for our USNA '85 Travel Packages, they are OUTSTANDING. I am personally doing the game and then a Southern Ireland extension and adding a Scotland Tour at the end of that that. (My wife and I are huge Outlander Fans and know we need to get over to Scotland on this trip after being hooked on this series.) Once we get a handle on the number of Classmates attending, we will start building the extras during our time in Dublin. Class parties, a pre-game tailgate and golf outings

will all be part of this amazing trip. We will of course attend the game as a class and celebrate before and after, because that is what we do.

Here is the link and I will have this all up on the Class of 1985 Website until the trip:

Main Page: <https://www.tenontours.com/scheduled-tours/2023-college-football-classic-navy-class-of-85/>

Registration Page: <https://www.tenontours.com/scheduled-tours/2023-college-football-classic-navy-class-of-85/>

There will be a limit to the number of people we can take in our group and the best hotels will go first come, first served on this. If you get in early, you get your choice and are guaranteed a spot. If you wait too long to sign up, you take a chance of missing out. I do not have this number yet, it may be driven by Tenon Tours other groups, they are also working with Notre Dame fans on packages and have given us the first choice for hotels. I am already locked in and I challenge you to do the same. Tenon is good about cancellations as many of you know from when the last trip cancelled due to Covid. So far, the interest is stronger than it was in 2012 and on that trip we took over 200 people from our class (friends a family included in that number). I am guessing we will be just as large if not larger for 2023. Our POC at Tenon is: Gracie Gadler

Email: [gracie@TenonTours.com](mailto:gracie@TenonTours.com)

Ph: (781) 435-6800

She is there for our Class and ready to take any questions you might have. Please contact her first and if you need anything or have questions or want to design your own tour. Reach out to me as always. What a perfect Christmas gift to yourself and loved ones? Lock up tour spot for the 2023 Ireland Adventure soon! I am excited to be part of this again and truly look forward to enjoying an amazing time in Dublin touring Ireland with the many Classmates I know will be attending. For now, have a wonderful, safe and blessed Holiday Season. Go Navy, BEAT ARMY (We already did). See you in Ireland in August 2023!!

Bob Smith '85

