

Class of '85,

As the old saying goes, ***"if you know you know"***. Those of you that came this weekend KNOW! If you missed it, well, we missed you. As I stated when I started planning our 40th Reunion, it would be EPIC and our best reunion yet. We accomplished both goals.

First off, my thanks for ALL of the gracious and kind words from all of you throughout the weekend and also for letting me know that a reunion on a non-football weekend truly did work great for everyone. From a beautiful Thursday evening at McGarvey's and the street out front, to a gorgeous evening on the banks of College Creek Friday and shaking it under the stars to a sun soaked massive tailgate party Saturday of over 950 people, '85 BROUGHT IT! Throw in a very touching Memorial service, an informative and moving Class meeting, a high spirited Supe's brief and it was truly one AMAZING weekend.

I am on my flight home processing all of this as I make sure all the bills get paid, thank you notes are written and a full accounting of our events will be my new priority in the days ahead. Here is what I need from you, get ready for a short survey coming your way soon with a few questions and an open ended question to tell me about the best and not-so-best experiences of the weekend. This way, while fresh in your minds, I can harvest some great data to make future reunions and class get togethers are a 6 star experience. You are not hurting my feelings to give me honest assessments as we will not rest on the laurels of success and keep striving for improvements.

If I owe you money, I will get it to you from the cases we have put on record and will now focus on that. Don't be shy to reach out about it, you are not bugging me and I want you made whole if we owe you any amount of money. If you owe me money, reach out and we can settle up. If you ordered something and did not get it, reach out. I have a few duffels unclaimed that I want to find a home for. If you want to get some of the merchandise from one of our vendors, go to the Class of '85 website and hit the drop down for MERCHANDISE and all the links are there. Especially the nice apparel and hats you saw some classmates wearing all weekend. We are working on a follow on order for Class watches, looking for both 42mm and 38mm orders. This was the watch on display all weekend. That link is and will be open until October 15 ONLY:

<https://axiatime.com/products/us-naval-academy-class-of-1985-timepiece-argos>

We will need an order of 20 of the 38mm size to start a run of that size watch, we already have produced materials for the 42mm watch from the previous order. Reach out if you have questions. If you have a smaller wrist or want a gift for your wife, the 38mm watches will be a beautiful timepiece at a great price (only \$895). If you placed an order this summer, those will be shipped out in the next few weeks and I will give you an update when that starts happening.

This week I will be announcing sign ups for our Class of '85 Army/Navy pre-game tailgate and watch party at the Wico Street Beer Company on December 13th from 1130-1430. When I open sign ups, do not wait as I will be opening this up to other Classes from the 80's to make this event a sell out and meet my contractual obligation for a bar buyout. All you can eat and drink (in house beer, ciders and sodas) for \$85pp is as good a deal as you will find. Another exciting opportunity to gather and enjoy Navy making it 2 wins in a row over that team on the Hudson.

Going forward post reunion, the Class of '85 website should be your main source for all things Class of '85, from home game tailgates to merchandise, to future happenings and Class news and soon, access to all the photos from this weekend. I will soon have a way to upload your photos from the weekend as well as access to all of the professional Annapolis Photography photos that were taken all weekend. Give me a few days on this, but it is coming soon. Book mark and keep informed at: <http://1985.usnaclassess.net/>

Next, I was talking about how amazing the Class of '85 Reunion Cruise book is, go and check it out for yourself: <https://usna.brightcrowd.com/1985-40th-reunion>

Noteworthy on this site, if you go to the directory and then hit **Map View**, you will see a map and all of those who signed up are on this map. If you are in Idaho, you will find Classmate Dave Bailey and you can reach out to him and knowing Dave, he will meet you for a beer or dinner and give you a bear hug too (this is just one example). I LOVE this cruise book and so will you, this a great opportunity to build on the connections we just made and do it for FREE, a price even Joel Hanson can afford. Here is the link for this weekend's home tailgate sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A48ABAB28AAF49-58740014-beat>

Our tailgate crew is doing a TexMex theme this weekend as we look to avenge last year's upset at the Rice Owls. We owe them an A\$\$ whooping!! As I stated, we have a quality Class tailgate at each home game so you always have a place to come and reconnect and enjoy a cold beer, great food and amazing football from our 3-0 Navy Midshipmen.

I will stop here for now, but stand by for more emails the next few days as we wrap up this past weekend. I hope everyone made it home okay or are enjoying some fun follow on travel after the reunion. For those who did not make but might want one of the reunion water bottles and a book from Rick Campbell, reach out I have some extras I want to sell you. The water bottles are super nice and great quality! My email is: [usnaclassof85@gmail.com](mailto:usnaclassof85@gmail.com).

Guys, this weekend was absolutely amazing and I am pumped to start working on future Class of '85 events, we are already talking about a 2028 trip to San Diego around the Olympics (anyone want to attend some Olympic events around a party with Classmates in beautiful San Diego?). Also in the works, the Class trip for '85 to 85, or our trip to Normandy for the 44th Class reunion and the 85th Anniversary of the D-Day landing. That trip has been in the works for about 6 months now and more info coming soon. Who is ready???

Go Navy, Beat Rice and stay tuned. Sign up for the Class tailgate this weekend if you are coming and keep on living life STRONG Class of '85!! Love you guys.

Bob Smith '85

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