

Hello Tuesday!

Most of you made it back home by now I hope and if you are like me, the voice is recovering, you are loading up the washing machine and cutting tags off the new and super cool USNA gear you bought (kids' inheritance further damaged). I am making my thank you list and going old school and firing some off in the mail, (Yes, I was able to find stamps and located the outgoing mail slot in my neighborhood cluster box much to my surprise). I will offer some inner class thank you notes here:

- All of you for coming and making this event what it was! FULL STOP!
- Anyone who played a support role from Admiral Stu Munsch to Emil Petruncio, Stan Newton and our Class singers at the Memorial Service
- My fellow Class Officers: Steve Pimpo, Bill Ridings and Vic Otero for their work on supporting this event and helping me executing it.
- My Wife Tracey Stewart for EVERYTHING! FULL STOP! (Years of patience, all her help and love and understanding and support and love for this class and for USNA!)
- My Company Reps for doing the legwork and outreach that helped us achieve this successful reunion. Congrats to Stu Card, 31st Company Rep, and 31st Company for being the reunion attendance color company. They had 22 in classmates in attendance. BZ 31st!
- To Charlie Smith, Bill Riding and our home tailgate crew for selflessly running our home football tailgate program. Whether you show up every game or that once a year or once every 5 year Navy Football game, Class of '85 is on it. We have a great tent, porta-johns, a generator and a TV with satellite dish, cold beer and other beverages, and great food. Not to mention other Class of '85 friends to mingle and enjoy the game. If you like the tailgate, toss some money in the tailgate fund collection box or send us a Venmo donation.
- To Ann-Marie Pick for offering to stand up our Distinguished Graduate Selection Committee and help our Class land its first DG awardee.

Thank you notes I am sending:

- Chris Hannan '94 and his sister, Tracey Newman, owners of McGarvey's and Anchor and Aisle catering for flawless Thursday, Friday and Saturday events.
- Bridgette Lundfelt, the USNA Alumni Association event manager for helping me design the layout and party for Friday night at the Fluegel Center.
- Wendy Owen, the USNAA Class Reunion Director for years of helping me get ready for this weekend
- Our Supe, Lt. General Mike Borgshulte, for his high energy address to our Class and for giving us all optimism about instilling the warrior ethos to our current Brigade of Midshipmen
- To Carmella Troisi. You don't know her, but I do. She is our Class Website maintainer. She charges me \$500 a year and gives me \$5000 a year in web support. She is a friend of Tracey's and has loved this Class even though she has only met me one time. She does all my changes, archives all my emails and keeps me up to date and makes our Class website meaningful and usually operating very well. I gave her a \$500 bonus for our reunion and I hope you are okay with that. Please bookmark our Class website: <http://1985.usnaclassess.net/>

Reminders: Sign up for this Saturday's Tailgate against Rice:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A48ABAB28AAF49-58740014-beat>

If you asked for a refund and do not see it by the end of this week, PLEASE reach out to me so we did not miss you. With a late cancellation date, it pushed us right into the start of the reunion when we shifted gears to executing the reunion vs sign ups and cancellations. I will have more emails in the days ahead, still lots to

discuss as we wind down the 40th and set our sites ahead. Here are some highlights of trips on the horizon for '85 travelers:

- USNA '85 Trip to County Limerick for the Ryder Cup in 2027
- USNA trip to San Diego in the Summer 2028 for the Summer Olympics (who wants to attend their first Olympics?... Hint: ME!)
- The May 2029 Trip to Normandy for '85 to 85, the 85th Anniversary year of the D-Day Landing and our 44th Reunion

I was not kidding when I said we are going to start more off year events NOW, this reunion is only the start to the "LIFE IS TOO SHORT" program for this Class. That is it for now, sign up for the Rice game and let's revenge last year's terrible loss to them. It will be a fun tailgate and enjoy the TexMex Charlie and the boys will be whipping up. Go Navy!!

Bob Smith '85

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