

Hello Classmates,

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday and I am flying home from an amazing weekend in Annapolis, I have so much to be thankful for today. Let me hit some highlights:

Navy's amazing win over USF and an 8-2 record going into a well deserve bye week.

Our Class was asked to host 80 USF Alumni for a pre-game brunch this past Saturday and we rocked this event. We wished our new friends "best of luck" then proceeded to kick their butts on the field. We have a shot at the AAC Conference championship and a spot in the CFP (long shot... but still being mentioned in national sports shows is pretty awesome).

We completed another outstanding home tailgate season with a catered Mission Barbecue post game tailgate and celebrated the 41-38 win and a great group of classmates attending, Singing Second of course!!

I went to the Fall Council of Class Presidents' meeting yesterday with the Supe, the new AD Mike Kelly and some great speakers and leaders from around the Yard in attendance. There were Class Presidents from the classes of '55 through the Class of '27, or 72 years of leadership. Our Class was singled out for the success of our fundraising and our recent 40th Reunion. Other Classes are already taking our non-football weekend reunion blue print and making it their own.

I was proud to represent and also left this full day of meetings and speakers enthused about things happening in and around the Yard and how this Class is helping to move the needle. Here are some highlights from yesterday I think you should know:

Service assignment is this week and 80% of the Mids are getting their 1st choice of service (yes, it is now called Service Assignment and not Selection), over 90% will get their 1st or 2nd choice. There will be 25% assigned to the Marine Corps, and that service assignment continues to be the most desired from the Mids. Having our first Marine Corps Supe does not hurt that popularity. The Yard is in great hands!

The new Columbarium, the Midshipmen Nutrition Centers and the new Events Center at USMC Stadium are all fully funded. I am working to identify our next fundraising effort and will share some ideas with you as I find them. The new AD has asked for more funding for Athletic Recovery for all our students and student athletes. (We have 36 varsity sports, tied with The Ohio State University for #1 in all of NCAA schools). What is this? Treatments such as cold and hot tubs, recovery therapies, sports psychologists, etc. We compete very well in the Patriot League and the American Athletic Conference and need better facilities to help recruit and care for our top athletes. I support this and may see how we can help.

While I was in Annapolis, we beat USF in Football, we beat Army in both Rugby (Navy Rugby is #1 in the NCAA) and Spring Football up at West Point, and our women's basketball team beat the University of Florida in basketball at Alumni Hall. Navy Sports are outstanding across the board and almost fully funded by Alumni support, so thanks to you for our continued support. We are 4-4-1 in the N-Star Series so far this year.

Our USNA and USNAA and Foundation Leadership continues to seek more ways to improve the lives of the Mids, the Mission of USNA and support of our Alumni. I am proud to sit in these meetings with a room full of fellow Class Presidents, USNA Board of Trustee members, USNA leadership and feel the enthusiasm for all things Navy and a collective sense of pride and dedication by our leaders to take USNA to new levels of achievement. It is a great time to be a Navy Grad as we prepare to celebrate 50 Years of Women at the Naval Academy next April 16-19 in Annapolis. Our Class will be supporting all these great women as they gather in

Annapolis and if anyone has questions, contact mary.brigden@usnawomen.com for information or sponsorship opportunities.

We have nearly filled our 150 slots at the Army/Navy pregame tailgate at the Wico Street Beer Company, if you still want to join us and other 80's grads, go here to sign up. We will be full in the next few days and no longer able to accommodate any more attendees.

Sign Up Link:

https://signupnow.events/Default_TailgatePaid.aspx?OrgId=1033&eid=1160&OrgName=USNA1985

We continue to see more people signing up for the Class of '85 Reunion Cruise Book, you only have until the end of this year to sign up and this opportunity will end. You can still access the book after the end of the year, but you can no longer sign up or create or add to your profile. Until you sign up, you cannot see those who have already done so, DO NOT MISS this awesome opportunity for this method of keeping up with other classmates and having a way to see who lives where and how to contact them as we all start to retire and travel the country. Here is that link: <https://usna.brightcrowd.com/1985-40th-reunion>

Or, contact Wendy Owen at: wendy.owen@usna.com, she runs this program and can help you sign up and get started. For the sake of brevity, I will soon put up a full review of the COCP (council of Class Presidents') Meeting as there was more great info and things I want to share with those interested. For now, enjoy the prep and execution of the Thanksgiving holiday and a great Navy win over Memphis at 1930 EST on Thanksgiving Day on ESPN. If you are going to the Army/Navy weekend sign up for Saturday's tailgate and reach out to me for the Friday night party at Wiley Gunter's starting at 1800. I am getting pumped as Navy looks great and we prep for that big WIN over Army and the CIC Trophy. Happy and Safe Thanksgiving and Beat Memphis and Army!!

Proud to be your President

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