

BRAVO ZULU

1960s

'66: CDR Frank Day, USN (Ret.), was inducted as part of the 12th USA Triathlon Hall of Fame class. Day was nominated in the fall of 2020 with 60 other candidates. He is one of only 58 members of the USA Triathlon Hall of Fame.

1970s

'70: George E. Sauer III, USN (Ret.), retired from Chartway Credit Union's board on 31 December 2022, following more than 30 years of service and has moved to emeritus status. Sauer began his volunteer service in 1987 as Chartway's military liaison officer and became a member of the board in 2008.

1980s


'87: CAPT Brett Pierson, USN (Ret.), was appointed president and CEO of Textron's Aviation Defense Division; **Edward Magee** was named vice president for strategic operations of Belmont University in January. He will be responsible for connecting the work of major university initiatives including the Belmont Data Collaborative, Belmont Innovation Labs, Story Studio and the Office of Educational Innovation.

'89: CDR Carol June (Womack) Holland, CEC, USN (Ret.), had an athletic award named after her in the fall of 2022 and has been inducted as a Trustee for the Naval Academy Foundation Athletic & Scholarship Programs. The Carol Womack Award will be presented to a Naval Academy female varsity or club athlete (not necessarily of the graduating class) who has shown the grit and determination throughout the team season to earn the title of Most Improved.



Maj Heather Ichord '05, USMCR; ADM James O. Ellis '69, USN (Ret.); LT Lisa McKinnon Munde '07, USN; and LCDR Dan Imbat '91, USN (Ret.), attend a Veterans Day dinner hosted by the Hoover Institution on the Stanford University campus last fall. Ichod, Imbat and Munde are part of the 2022-23 Hoover VFP cohort.

seeks participants who desire to address critical challenges in the public sector with actionable solutions. The program is building a network of successful veteran practitioners who confront real-world challenges alongside Hoover fellows with support networks at the Hoover Institution and Stanford University.

The Naval Academy alumni Veteran Fellows are joined by two other fellows at the Hoover Institution. Admiral James O. Ellis '69, USN (Ret.), is the Annenberg Distinguished Visiting Fellow, and Admiral Gary Roughhead '73, USN (Ret.), a former Chief of Naval Operations, is the Robert and Marion Oster Distinguished Military Fellow at the Hoover Institution. 

Alumni Connect in Veteran Fellowship Program

Major Heather Ichord '05, USMCR, Lieutenant Lisa McKinnon Munde '07, USN, and Lieutenant Commander Dan Imbat '91, USN (Ret.), are part of the 2022-23 Hoover Veteran Fellowship Program (VFP) cohort on the campus of Stanford University. They are working on projects related to maritime security, port logistics and artificial intelligence to encourage American innovation and leadership on today's most challenging security challenges.

The Hoover Institution Veteran Fellowship Program is a nonresidential, yearlong program for ten military veterans that was launched in the fall of 2021, according to its website. The program

1990s

'90: Marc Scheipe USN (Ret.), was named CEO of Allvue Systems, a leading provider of technology for investment managers in the private capital and credit markets industry. **Bob Pragada** has been named chief executive officer of professional services firm Jacobs.

'92: CAPT Shelby Mounts, USN (Ret.), is now the executive director of NextOp, a veteran service organization. NextOp veterans bridge the divide between middle enlisted (E-3 to E-7) military members and companies looking to hire military talent.

'95: Sonja Knight Lamott, a former varsity member and captain of the USNA track and field team, was inducted as a Trustee for the Naval Academy Foundation Athletics & Scholarship Programs. She is currently the chief technology

officer for the Program Executive Office, Defense Healthcare Management Systems.

'99: Charles Westerhaus is part of law firm Faegre Drinker's 2022 first-year associate class. Westerhaus' practice area is government and regulatory affairs. The associate class participated in an immersive development program as they started their careers with Faegre Drinker.

2000s

'01: Maj Dave Cote, USMCR (Ret.), is in Harvard's Kennedy School Mid Career MPA program and scheduled to graduate from the program in May. His Naval Academy roommate **CDR Kevin Barnard, USN**, graduated from the program in 2017. Both received full scholarships for the program.

'06: Chris Deluzio is now serving as U.S. Representative to Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District.

2010s

'10: LT Alberto Ramos, USN, was hired as the Veterans Administration's chief speechwriter in January. He served 12 years as a submarine officer and post-active duty, he completed a nonpartisan White House Fellowship at the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation.

'12: Benjamin Currin was named to Wilmington, NC's 40 Under 40 List for his leadership as CEO of Vantaca, a Wilmington-based cloud software company.

Do you know someone who deserves a Bravo Zulu?
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'86

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'87

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Hello Classmates,

It is hard to believe we are already a quarter into 2023. I hope as I write this column in late January that we will find by the time this *Shipmate* issue arrives in March or April that Ukraine has driven Russia out of most or all of Ukraine. It seems surreal that we are once again helping Europe fight the early stages of a situation that has far too many similarities to the few years just before WWI and WWII. It wasn't that long ago that I was in a phone booth on a pier in Naples, Italy, talking with my wife while the Berlin Wall was being torn down. And now Russia, having spurned the opportunity to become a decent world citizen, has sunk to levels of depravity not seen since the Holocaust. May victory for Ukraine come soon and may we find a new way forward with Russia which leads to an enduring peace, however impossible that may seem now.

Ken Clark is our first contributor to this issue. Check out his news blast.

✉ "It was great to see so many folks on the 30th. As always, I was inspired by the collective accomplishments of our classmates. So many CEO's/Presidents and massive business leaders. I'm humbled to be associated with such a fine group of contributing/productive citizens - despite our sometimes-sharp differences of opinion. It's helpful to remember

that truly passionate, honorable folks just think differently about how to best accomplish shared goals.

I had a discussion with **Steve Gillespie** about legacy. He invited me to a group he is leading in the Raleigh, NC area (100 Men Who Give a Damn). It's a great idea and I was excited to join him in his efforts. Work finally took me up to Manchester, NH. Jim Dick treated me to a tour of his picturesque chateau in the frozen tundra, a tasty spaghetti dinner highlighted by Mary Kelly's wine selection!

My youngest (and only daughter) got married in May 2022. It was far more emotional than I anticipated. Those who preceded me in this "rite of passage" really should have given me better gouge! She married a great guy who is attending UNC dental school (Class of '25) on a full Air Force scholarship.

All three kids are out of the house. We've been spared an empty nest. We are the stereotypical "sandwich" family. In-laws moved in with us in 2018. My father-in-law passed away in January of '21. Mother-in-law is going strong, so we are getting a good window into our future of aging. My brother-in-law passed away from a heart attack in June. PLEASE get your annual physicals folks. My sister needed help with her 13-yr-old autistic son, so they are also living with us. I definitely thought we were finished with the teenage years. It's a rough adjustment, but we are blessed to be able to help. Professionally, things are going well. I'm excited to be starting a new business venture in the disaster restoration space. Though sometimes, I think I would have been better off learning how to be a general contractor. We are building a vacation beach rental in Emerald Isle, NC. Would love to have been able to do it myself. It will be fantastic when it's complete. 10BR/10BA, ocean front. Those who might be interested can follow updates on Facebook. Trying to keep the decorating tasteful and incorporate some USNA swag for personal interest. Once it's finished, we'll have to get some classmates together to "commission" it for full fleet duty. In the meantime, anyone travelling through the Raleigh-Durham area - please let me know if I can host you for a beverage of choice - or even a meal. I'll try to provide my next update before another 35 years pass.

Warm Regards, **-Ken Clark**

Ed Magee landed an exciting new role.

While we don't always get news of classmates moving into new roles for *Shipmate*, this one crossed my desk and I thought you'd all enjoy hearing a bit about Ed's journey since leaving the Navy. Belmont today named Edward "Ed" Magee as Vice President for Strategic Operations, a new role that will be responsible for connecting the work of major University initiatives including the Belmont Data Collaborative, Belmont Innovation Labs, Story Studio and the Office of Educational Innovation. This work will enable creative synergies among these important initiatives and will support

effective implementation and execution. Magee will begin his new role at Belmont on February 13.

Belmont President Dr. Greg Jones said, "We are excited to welcome Ed Magee to Belmont in a role that will support our growing and ongoing efforts to impact the world in meaningful ways. His demonstrated commitment to creative, collaborative and entrepreneurial thinking—and his impressive experience focused on operational excellence—provide an incredible foundation for all that Belmont is working toward as we seek to impact human and community flourishing."

"Belmont exemplifies everything that great communities are built upon—values, stewardship and a sense of belonging to something much greater than self," Ed Magee said. "I could not be more thrilled to join this incredible and growing team."

In addition to his role as VP, Magee will serve as Executive-in-Residence for the Massey College of Business where he will provide teaching and leadership across a variety of college areas including degree programs. He will work alongside the College's leadership team to consider how Belmont can continue to play a strong role in developing innovative approaches for the business community and beyond.

"Ed's many years of experience, his incredible career and his commitment to pursuing success that is steeped in ethical leadership make him an exemplary model for our students and our entire community," said Dr. Sarah Gardial, Dean of Belmont's Massey College of Business. "I am grateful for the insight and wisdom he will bring to our team as we seek to educate and train the next generation of business leaders who are equipped to make the world a better place."

Most recently, Magee served as the Executive Vice President of Operations at Fender, a privately held musical instruments company with more than \$1 billion in annual revenue. In this role he directed every aspect of manufacturing, sustainability, new product innovation, supply chain, logistics, distribution and more. Prior to his time at Fender, Magee was a senior executive at Harley-Davidson where he oversaw production facilities and led transformational efforts throughout the organization's workforce.

In addition to his extensive career in management, Magee has served on a variety of non-profit boards including the Board of Visitors at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, the Fender Play Foundation (Co-President), the Boys & Girls Club of Metro LA (Secretary) and in an advisory role for the National Association of Manufacturers "Heroes MAKE America" Veterans Transition Program. He is a Diversity MBA Magazine Top 100 Under 50 Diverse Education Leaders and a Savoy Magazine Top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America honoree. Ed also serves as an Independent Director on the



Ed Magee

Board of WD-40 (NASDAQ: WDFC) and serves on the Audit and Finance committees.

Magee is a combat veteran who holds a Master of Business Administration from the Fuqua School of

Business at Duke University, a Master of Public Administration from George Mason University and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the U.S. Naval Academy.

Michael Bell shared the unfortunate news of the passing of **Don Griffin** along with the comforting news that several classmates were able to attend the Memorial Service. Please keep Don's family in your thoughts and prayers.

"Don Griffin's Memorial service was held December 12th at the Naval Academy Chapel followed by his interment at the Naval Academy columbarium on Hospital Point. Classmate **Rob Horel** and a former midshipman Don sponsored, Maj. Patrick Moecher, USMC (USNA 2010), gave eulogies. Several classmates were in attendance including Don's plebe year 34th company roommates **Rob Horel** and **Tony Hollinger**, 10th company classmates **Charlie Sullivan**, **Joe Campbell**, **Ziggy Wulff**, and **Mike Bell**, and several other classmates including **Nancy Springer** and **Bill Hallahan**.

Rob Horel memorized his eulogy and spoke of Don's southern roots, childhood, many friends, affinity of alternative music, passion for playing rugby, love for the Naval Academy and service, but most importantly of his family. It was incredible and alluded to many of Don's characteristics: wit, intelligence, sincerity, patriotism, sense of humor and love of family.

Don's love for USNA was expressed by his desire to be interred on the banks of the Severn River at the Naval Academy's columbarium on Hospital Point overlooking his beloved alma mater. Knowing Don's sense of humor and that he was a Systems Engineering major, I must believe he chose that location so he could see Rickover Hall and say, "I told you I'd earn my Gold Dolphins."

Don is survived by his wife of 35 years, Karine; sons Zachary, Samuel, and Jared (USNA 2014, USMC east coast Osprey pilot); mother, Doris; brother Todd; and many in-laws, nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his father Donald."



10th company attendees at Don Griffin's Memorial Service (L-R) Charlie Sullivan, Ziggy Wulff, Joe Campbell and Mike Bell.

Thanks to all our contributors for this issue. Please send your news and writings to rpinataro87@gmail.com with "SHIPMATE" in the subject line.

'88

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 17.61%

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'88 "Strength in Freedom",
USS RUSSELL (DDG-59) r/ Sara

USNA Alumni Association and Foundation is migrating to the new myUSNA platform over the next year with the goal of providing better, more coordinated, and timely communications on the right platforms. This means our future connection to all things USNA - including our upcoming class events, reunion news, special interest groups, live events, tailgaters, alumni directory, local chapters, sporting events, world-wide alumni events, and more - are now on or will be on this platform. It's easy. Just head over to myusna.com and register with your email. If your email matches the one used on usna.com, you're in automatically. If it's an updated email, a staff member will verify your identity as a member of the class, and then you'll be in! Please let us know if you have any questions.

With the new myusna platform, we now have a '88 class website, under construction but live. If you have a small business, we can highlight your logo and link it back to your website. Send your 300 by 300 logo (not to exceed 50 MB) and the url to **Laura Lee** at lauraleeusna88@gmail.com, via DM on our private '88 Facebook group, or connect directly using the new myusna.com platform.

Darryl Smith is a new member of USA Boxing Board of Directors. Announcement of New USA Board Members:

✉ "Darryl Smith was selected as an Independent Director. Having boxed at the US Naval Academy, Smith learned a great deal about resiliency and dealing with uncertainty, which helped him in his military service and business career. His career in business and non-profit experience including serving on the Salvation Army Board in Dallas will be valuable to the Board."

35th Reunion. 35 YEARS! This fall '88 will be celebrating our 35th reunion in Annapolis. We will have another great program with a mixture of events highlighted by our Friday Evening Class Event and our Saturday Tailgater. There are also two new venues we will be utilizing -

the Jack Taylor Center at the Naval Institute on Hospital Point and the new Alumni Association and Foundation Headquarters on King George Street across from the Baseball Stadium. The date has not been set but will be announced by the end of February once the football schedule for this fall is finalized. As soon as we lock this in - a "Save the Date" communication will go out via all of our channels including email, Facebook and *Shipmate* so you can put it on your calendar. Thank you to all who have volunteered to be on the Reunion Planning Team. If you would like to be a part of the team - please send an email to me at (jschwab@crimstonepartners.com).



Bill and Wendy Conley with son Sean Conley. Sean earned his Trident with class 342. He is assigned to ST7 in Coronado



Jim and Jacqui Schwab with son James. James graduated from TBS and is now in Pensacola

BLUE & GOLD OFFICER

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