



9 May 2023

My Wonderful Classmates –

I share some very important Classmate news regarding events happening this week, along with a few other '87-related tidbits:

- **THURSDAY, 11 MAY - CELEBRATION OF LIFE / INTERNMENT:** this Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 1500, a Celebration of Life ceremony and interment of **Joseph Scott Eversole** will be held at Arlington National Cemetery. Reception to follow: 1630 at Fort Myer Patton Hall - Fife & Drum Room. Please RSVP to Treva Eversole (240-434-5514, toeroejoe@aol.com) or Rachel Dishman (240-434-5515). See the end of the letter for more details about access to Arlington.
- **Alan Rodgers** passed along on Facebook: "Classmates - the very best classmates in the world - we have a call to arms! Most, if not all, of you know that **Pat Hagerty** has been going through quite the health battle. Just as things begin to look up, another battle confronts him - and Pat is a fighter - taking hill after hill. Well - he has another hill to climb as his stent has stopped working and he is losing weight again - weight he can not afford to lose. Pat has checked himself into a hospital and will have a procedure either tomorrow (5/10) or Thursday. My ask - please say an extra prayer tonight and tomorrow night for him and his family that this procedure be successful. God bless!"
- Also from Facebook, **Dave Julian** passed along that **Rob "Race" Roberson**'s interment of ashes will be held Friday, 23 June 2023, at 1130 at Quantico National Cemetery. The Quantico National Cemetery is open to the public; [details and directions found here](#). Rob's widow, Maire, their son, Conor, and daughter, Shannon, are inviting everyone to [The National Museum of the Marine Corps](#) for light refreshments afterward starting at 1230. Finally, as Race was a fan of all things Eagles and Phillies, "...if you can bring yourself to wear black/green/silver or feel better with Red/White/Blue - the Philly Fanatic will love you!"
- The fifth **Mark Hamilton** [shell dedication and christening](#) was held on Saturday, April 29th. Thirteen classmates attended and had the honor of representing the Class. Mark's father, Tom Hamilton, his brother, Paul, and his sister, Anne, were in attendance and expressed how much they appreciated the Class of '87. A copy of the [live stream video is here](#).

Finally, the GREAT CLASS CHALLENGE: **You are responding magnificently** – time to unleash The Kraken, errr..., Wave 2! As of COB Tuesday, we broke into the TOP 5 in the Great Class Challenge with 130 total donors (13.76%) but have a number of classes nipping at our heels. Our old nemesis, our Firsties, the Class of 1984 is currently holding the top spot with 250+ donors. It's time to run up our score to catch and surpass them.

Please thoughtfully consider making a one-time donation of \$19.87 (or the minimum of \$10 or any other amount you'd like) because this is a participation numbers contest! If everyone who attended the Reunion made a minimum donation, we'd smoke every class out there and set a Challenge record!

A few reminders/notes:

- This donation does count towards our 40th Reunion Class Gift Project totals!
- It's all about YOUR participation! Phone a friend!
- Vote with your wallet! We will use the data of the 11 broad categories you choose to support, to inform the Class Project Executive Steering Committee (ESC) for the Class Gift Project.
- The campaign wraps up this Friday, 12 May.

For more details, see [last week's Class Blast letter](#) or go directly to the website:
<https://navalacademychallenge.com/pages/usna-home>

Go Navy!



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Arriving at Arlington National Cemetery -

- Please plan to arrive 45 minutes prior to the scheduled service time.
- Family and guests arrive at the cemetery via Memorial Avenue Gate, guards will direct you to park in queuing lanes.
- Signs will let you know which lane is dedicated to your service
- Proceed to the Administration Building, where the receptionist will guide you to your assigned family room.
- Proper footwear that allows mobility on hard and soft surfaces is recommended.

Arriving at Fort Myer Patton Hall -

Fort Myer is located across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., adjacent to Arlington National Cemetery.

Access for Fort Myer *IF YOU DO NOT HAVE DoD ID CARD - ACTION REQUIRED*

**Please request base access ahead of time by applying online here: <https://pass.aie.army.mil/jbmhh>

All non-DoD or non-federally-affiliated ID card holders will be directed to Hatfield Gate -- Washington Boulevard at South 2nd Street, Arlington, on the Fort Myer portion of the joint base; and Second Street Gate -- 2nd Street, south of P Street on the Fort McNair portion of the joint base. To prevent long lines and backups at the access control points, non-DoD-affiliated visitors are encouraged to pre-register at the Visitor Control Center in Building 415, on the Fort Myer portion of the joint base.

The Great Class Challenge

Evolved from the “All Academy Challenge”, which pitted Navy against the other service academies. The Whoops and Zoomies couldn’t hack it and dropped out last year. The Naval Academy Foundation converted the event to an internal Naval Academy competition among all USNA classes. Last year’s Challenge was the most successful since the competition started and raised over two million dollars for USNA from 6,300 alumni donors.

How do I support ‘87 and USNA?

The Great Class Challenge is a participation challenge in two categories – the highest percentage of alumni donating and the most Classmates donating. Last year, ‘87 nearly doubled the number of classmates donating in 2022 (from 86 to 150) to move into the top 20. We aim to top that in 2023.

The Great Class Challenge website, www.navalacademychallenge.com, is live. You can make your gift on the site. You may have already received a Navy pennant in the mail with more details. On the site, there is a drop-down menu listing specific USNA program categories you can choose to support, including:

- [Naval Academy Fund \(Superintendent’s Unrestricted Fund\)](#)
- [Center for Academic Excellence](#)
- [Midshipman Activities Fund](#)
- [Admissions Excellence](#)
- [Center for Cyber Security Studies](#)
- [Project-Based Learning](#)
- [USNA AA&F Center](#)
- [Center for Experiential Leadership Development](#)
- [STEM Center for Education & Outreach](#)
- [International Programs](#)
- [Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership](#)

Regardless of the program you select, ‘87 will get credit for your gift. The class will also get credit for any gifts you may have submitted by other means (mail, phone, or online).

If you have any questions, you can reach out to the class leadership team or direct questions to the Naval Academy Foundation coordinator, Sara Brown (sara.brown@usna.com, 410-295-4130).

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM: Reach out to any of us with your recommendations or concerns at:

- Scott Herbener, 410.703.3519, president@usna87.net
- Tim Wolf, 612.655.9823, vp@usna87.net
- Chris Dunphy, 617.750.9953, finance@usna87.net
- Steve Rowe, 757.676.9159, comms@usna87.net
- Jason Hardebeck, 410.417.8787, tech@usna87.net