

'86

Life Membership: 99%
Donor Participation: 13.85%

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Thanks to **Phil Vance** for the following
 – and congratulations to Jenna!

✉ It's been a busy spring for me and my family. Daughter Jenna graduated from University of Virginia on 20 May 2022. She had been part of the UVA NROTC program for 4 years. I had the privilege of administering the Oath of Office to Jenna during a personalized ceremony 19 May, where each candidate was commissioned individually, either by a select individual or the Unit CO/XO. She also had the opportunity for her brother, James, an AW2 stationed w/ VR-55, to render the first salute and receive that coveted silver dollar. Found out that Generation Z didn't know what a "Silver Dollar" was and why they cost so much, but the new officers were schooled. Jenna will be heading off to Pensacola for Aviation Training as a Naval Flight Officer. Oldest daughter Sarah (prior CAPT USMC) attended with her daughter Harper, along with wife Patty, and son Daniel (3rd Year AROTC at ODU); youngest son Thomas (AD w/VAW-121) couldn't make it. A total of 18 Ensigns and 1 2nd Lt were commissioned at UVA that day. Great ceremony and fun had by all.

In much sadder news, **James Addison (22)** passed away on 17 September 2022 while rowing on the Mohawk River in New York. The class extends its condolences to his partner, Jared Shortmeier, and his sons, Alexander and Nicholas. In lieu of flowers, James' family encourages those impacted by his life to do something special for the loved ones in your own life or the stranger on the street. Celebrate

James' legacy today by honoring the dignity in everyone you come across and by making every moment count. Additionally, donations can be made in James' memory to his next-door neighbors and friends at the YWCA in the Stockade Neighborhood in Schenectady. Please send checks to YWCA NENY Attn: Development 44 Washington Ave, Schenectady, NY 12305 with 'Addison Memorial Contribution' indicated on the check. Donations can also be made directly online under the 'Donate Now' tab at www.ywca-neny.org, please check the tribute box and enter James' name when making your contribution.

Friends and family are encouraged to add their memories and pictures to the Tribute Wall which may be found at: www.dufresneandcavanaugh.com.

Audemus Esse Magnos

'87

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 19.30%

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Hello Classmates,

Happy Holidays! It was nice seeing so many of you at the Reunion and I think it only fair that we follow up that win by beating Army!

Huge thanks to the Reunion Committee and to all our classmates who were able to make the investment of time and treasure to join our 35th Reunion on Labor Day weekend. To say it was a smashing success would be a tremendous understatement. It was a fantastic time of connecting with each other, seeing the much-improved Academy and USNI facilities, hearing

about the amazing new Alumni House being built, and most of all to be reminded of just how lucky all of us were to attend such a fine institution, **Mary Kelly, Nick Campbell** and **Scott Herbener** opine more eloquently below, so I'll end my bit with a photo of nearly all the 9th Company crew who were able to attend. **Wendell Ross** and **EU Miller**, we'll have to drag you into the photo at our 40th! -see photo on next page) - **Rob Pinataro**

Ralph Nelson shared a great idea. It includes classmates and golf, so it must be a great idea...

✉ "We are having such success with the DC Chapter of the USNA 87 Golf League that we want to start a national league with chapters in those cities with classmate concentrations all around the country. Classmates, family members and close friends can play.

The format is for a 6,500 yd +/- course and a 6-6-6 format so all levels can play, have fun, get outside and enjoy some self-improvement with no dues or points.

Traveling to a city with a chapter? You can ask for a round in that city. Contact **Ralph Nelson** (rnelson01@aol.com) to get directions to launch a chapter in your city."



Sept. 23 at Herndon Golf Club. (L to R) **Ralph Nelson, Dave Hunsburger, John Alexander, Mike Cantwell** and **Phil**

Congratulations to **Rayomé Soupiset** on his promotion to President and CEO of Mueller, Inc.!

✉ "Ballinger, TX – Mueller, Inc. a leading manufacturer of steel buildings and residential metal roofing, has announced the promotion of **Rayomé Soupiset** to President and Chief Executive Officer. Soupiset (USNA 1987) served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Navy Reserves with deployments to the Pacific, Desert Storm, and Desert Shield. While at the Naval War College, he served in a joint operation with NASA for integration of smart technologies for shipboard casualty control systems. During Operation Desert Shield he served as the liaison between the 6th Fleet and Israel. Rayomé has more than 30 years of experience in the steel industry in sales, manufacturing, engineering, and purchasing. He also led Mueller's new areas of growth in the self-storage, cold-formed building area, and coil sale industries. Mueller, Inc. currently has 36 branch locations, 4 manufacturing centers, 750+ employees, and Annual Sales of over



'86: **Sarah, Me, Jenna, Harper, Patty, James** and **Daniel**



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS 1987-2022

'87: (L to R and B to F) Jim Beggs, Dan Doherty, John Rinkacs, Bernie Koehr, Pat Simms, Rob Pinataro, Dave Berman and Steve Tackett"

\$500M. Every year, Mueller donates a free building to a deserving non-profit organization in Texas. www.muellerinc.com"

Jeff Colwell and family have cause for celebration. "Our oldest son, LCOL Jeremy Colwell (USNA 2004), took command of 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, an artillery unit, in June at Camp Pendleton. -Semper Fi, **Jeff**"



Congratulations to Jeff Colwell (L) on his son, Jeremy Colwell (R), taking command of 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines!

From our good friend and nation-trotting speaker, **Mary Kelly**:

✉ "How awesome was the Class of 1987 35th reunion? Let me count the ways!

First and foremost, it was wonderful to see classmates and catch up on news, families, jobs, and health. One of the things that struck me at this reunion was we were very interested in having real conversations with each other. People were genuinely concerned about things that matter most - the people in our lives.

The reunion committee did an amazing job of making sure there were great opportunities for real conversation, from golf to the receptions to the women's lunch to the football game and tailgater to brunch in King Hall.

For most of us, I would guess that the highlight of the reunion was the Memorial for our fallen classmates. While **Jim Matheson** read the names and **Nick Campbell** tolled the bell, we all had memories rush back. Having

both our own **Robert Burns** as Presiding Reverend and **Father Pucciarelli** give us words of wisdom was motivational and moving.

The attention to detail that went into this reunion was beyond incredible. The SWAG renewed our commitment to take our 1987 backpacks on great adventures. The glassware and mugs and stickers! The Old Line Whiskey! The water bottles! Too many details to list! I also really appreciated all the great information ahead of time (even the Form-2) and the text message updates.

My personal takeaways:

1. Everyone who took the oath is a classmate. If you were there on I-Day, please know that you are part of the class and this reunion is for all of us.

2. Wear the 87 gear. Even the bowling shirt. Especially the bowling shirt. The bowling shirt is now the clothing version of the backpack.

3. I am blocking a FULL WEEK for the 40th. I am going to come in on Wednesday and not leave until the following Wednesday. I am going to enjoy Annapolis and have longer and deeper conversations.

My biggest takeaway? My '87 classmates are amazing, talented, kind, smart, and funny people. The reunion renewed my commitment to not wait for another reunion to make the

phone call, take the detour, or have dinner with a classmate and their families. ~ Mary Kelly"



Let's go bowling! Scott Herbener and Mary Kelly

From **Scott Herbener**:

✉ "You're reading this as we prepare to BEAT ARMY! And, as I'm writing this in September, I'm still happily fielding phone calls and texts of Classmates' experiences during the 35th. I hope we stuff the next several *Shipmates* with all our pix and stories from the Reunion (and then tailgating season, and then Army-Navy). Prove me right!

You'll soon be hearing more about the Class Fundraising Project from **Tim Wolf** (and the rest of the ESC of **Len LaPorta**, **Ed Magee** and **Mary McElroy** and special advisor, **Jim Matheson**). We're interested in your input as the Project(s) come into focus.

Speaking of **Jim**, the following picture documented the (real) turnover between **Jim** and me. I think he said something like "I had it, you got it!" and then giggled and shot par for the hole (I may have imagined that last part). "



Jim Matheson and Scott Herbener working hard on turnover for the Class of 1987 change of Command



'87: Some BadAssery with the Women of '87

Nick Campbell sent a nice update about the Reunion.

✉ "Another walk-off grand slam reunion orchestrated by our esteemed class leaders. I didn't think the 30th could be exceeded, but there you go...."

Nothing like walking into NCMC Stadium and getting a bag full of goodies. Yet another awesome shoulder bag, a bourbon glass, travel mug, key chain, freeze dried Neeb's Loaf.... Craig, can you add the latter as a menu item on 49th Street?"



(L to R) Nick Campbell and Craig Perri at the Reunion

"The memorial service was dignified and proper, honoring the 47 classmates who left us too soon. The service was capped off by the return of our beloved George Pucciarelli, Father Pooch! I left the service with much more 'stamminer' than I had at breakfast."



Father Pucciarelli

"Great time was had by all! I'm not waiting for the next reunion to catch up; I have a craving for some of that Dietz homemade cappuccino again, so I'll be hitchhiking eastbound (again). And Rob Douglass lives on the Eastern Shore, just a short swim from the seawall, wetsuit optional. - Nick"



Rob Douglass, Nick Campbell and Jon Jewell



Ron Higgs, Nick Campbell and Tom Keane



Lisa Dietz, Nick Campbell and Bob Dietz

Erica Smith shared heartfelt thanks from all the women of '87 for a special bit of recognition at the reunion.

✉ "I can't begin to express how much this means to the Women of '87. These centerpieces were on the tables at our ladies' luncheon. Lots of healing here. -Erica"



Class of '87 Gift of Floral Centerpieces for the Class of '87 Women's Luncheon

Hey Classmates! 487 classmates attended the reunion and created many a story and photo. Please send those my way at your first

opportunity and I'll feed those into *Shipmate* to warm your spirits through the Dark Ages!

Please send your news to: rpinataro87@gmail.com with "SHIPMATE" in the subject line.

'88

Life Membership: 100%
Donor Participation: 14.26%

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'88 "Seize the Day" USS MITSCHER (DDG-57)
r/Sara

David Shanes: Scott Peterson and Rob Shoop joined in to celebrate David Shanes' son getting married on August 28 at Naval Base Point Loma. We re-did this picture from our Youngster year, circa December 1985. It was great to get together again!"



Shanes, Peterson and Shoop - 1988 + 34



Shanes, Peterson, and Shoop Youngster Year

Laura (Stroman) Lee: Classmate David Shanes shares the poem that he wrote after the passing of Paul Penabene. Thanks, David, for giving us such a meaningful call to commitment for connections more often and "not just at the end."

"What more can we do? What more can we say? When the next of our class, may pass away. We should reach out often, And try to do more, Because we bonded together, down to our core. We just lost one of our own, I never knew he was near, Let's get together more