

News Bulletin

October 2022

UNC Navy ROTC Alumni Association



www.uncnrotcaa.org

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Message from the President



Hello Alumni Association Members,

I know that since our last bulletin, lots of important milestones have occurred, but it is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of a dear friend and staff member, Don Ledford. We also received news of George Tabor's '86 active duty son's death. The AA reached out to both families to offer condolences. Additionally, the UNC NROTC Alumni Association is developing a plan for a Celebration of Life for Don Ledford during our upcoming reunion weekend, 18-20 November. Initially, we are creating an event for Sunday, 20 Nov in the morning. More to follow.

On a brighter note, I hope you all are enjoying the season change and watching our Tarheels on the gridiron. Fun times for Carolina sports, that is for sure. We hope to see a lot of you in person at our reunion 18-20 November to see the UNC vs. Ga Tech game!

Lastly, stay tuned for another Special Bulletin update coming shortly with another call to action to support ongoing efforts to preserve the Armory! The Naval Armory Preservation Committee (NAPC) is working on several lines of operation..... Rob Rivers will be publishing details on what is desired/needed to keep us moving toward preservation with the UNC Board of Trustees.

Marianne Waldrop '87

Next Annual Association Reunion Weekend

Our annual Association Reunion will be the weekend of 18-20 November 2022. The home football game on 19 November is against Georgia Tech and will focus on Military Appreciation. ESPN's current FPI win probability for UNC is 84.9%.

Please SAVE THESE DATES and make YOUR plans to attend.

Hotel Reservation deadline reminder - NLT October 16th in order to get the reduced rate.

Two hotels which are across the street from each other have offered special room rates for our alumni. The NROTCAA President's Reception on Friday night will be at the Hyatt Place Durham Southpoint. As you are planning to attend the NROTC alumni reunion, please patronize these locations to reward their cooperation with the NROTCAA. The deadline for making hotel reservations is Sunday, October 16, 2022 in order to get the reduced rate .

Hyatt Place Durham Southpoint
7840 NC Hwy 751
Durham, NC 27713

Group Code G-NARO
Special rate (USD \$149/night) is valid Nov 17-20, 2022.
Book NLT Sunday, October 16, 2022
Make your online reservation [here](#)

or Call the hotel at 919.688.7800 and select option "0" to speak with the reservation team members.

Fairfield Inn & Suites Durham Southpoint
7807 Leonardo Dr
Durham, NC 27713

Special rate (USD \$149/night) is valid Nov 17-20, 2022.
Book NLT Sunday, October 16, 2022
Make your online reservation [here](#)

or Call the hotel at 919.806.8200. For the group rate, mention "UNC Naval ROTC Alumni Event".

Sign-up portal for UNC NROTCAA reunion activities November 18-20th

The registration portal for our Annual Meeting and Reunion events is open through the UNC GAA. Click [here](#) for access. There are 2 menu items on the main page in the upper left corner of the announcement. Click the top item to view the schedule of events and hotel information for our reunion weekend. The bottom item links to the registration page.

Please sign-up as soon as possible to help us gauge numbers for catering and planning for seating at the various events. A block of 30 tickets for the UNC vs Georgia Tech football game have been reserved for our Association attendees and are available for purchase on the sign-up portal. We look forward to seeing those who are able to attend!

Seeking Alumni for Midshipman Leadership Panel

UNC's NROTC battalion is seeking available alumni to participate in a Leadership Panel during their Lab time on Thursday, October 27th from 1400-1515 EDT. Participation can be in-person or virtually. Interested UNC NROTC alumni should contact Dan Wright '86 (dwrightjr1@carolina.rr.com) and/or MIDN 2/C Thomas Vangelopoulos (thalva@email.unc.edu) at least a few days before the panel. Virtual participants will be sent a Zoom link in advance.

2022 Membership

If you haven't already done so, it is time to join or renew your membership for 2022.

Please become a paid member. We need you!
Most Popular option: Life Membership

GREAT VALUE: 5 YEAR MEMBERSHIP

5 years of membership for the price of four!

Click the green button below to join, renew or upgrade.

Join, Renew or Upgrade your Membership Now

What do my dues pay for?

Your dues contribution pays for our website, database software, financial management software and the Distinguished Alumnus /Alumna and Distinguished Service Awards; these funds enable us to communicate with the graduates so we can host and organize alumni events to support our NROTC Unit and Midshipmen. The Scholarships, Dawson Library and Connor Awards are funded separately through charitable contributions. Events (Annual Meeting & Reunions) are funded on a pay-as-you go basis by event participants.

Now Hear This: Scuttlebutt!

UNC NROTC Classmates and Alumni,

LaNell and I were overwhelmed by all the cards and emails we recently received from NROTC shipmates. It was made sweeter by the fact that we had gotten reacquainted with many of you at the reunion last November, but we heard from many who were not there as well. We apologize for not answering each sympathy note individually, so this group thank-you will have to suffice for now.

We appreciate all the kind words, verses, and prayers. They are truly felt. While we will never fully understand the "reason why" while inhabiting this earth, we are trying to rest in the loving arms of our Lord (not always easy). The Memorial service and internment were very honoring of Quint. Military unit members, college/high school friends and family showed up in amazing numbers. We were humbled by their presence, and we sat around late into the evening sharing our "Quintessential" stories. Quint packed a lot of quality time and adventures into his 30 years.

We are working through the "great sadness", but we will be okay. Life goes on and Quint would want us to not just survive but thrive, but it will take time. Below is a picture that Quint's teammate sent me. Just look at that smile. He was living out his purpose on this earth and I am sure his smile is even broader now as he is fully realizing his purpose in heaven.

Grace and Peace,

Tab and LaNell Taber '86



Taps for NROTC Alumni We've Lost

We recently learned of the passing of a dear, former NROTC Alumni Association member and the 2016 Distinguished Service Award winner, Don Ledford. Our condolences go out to Don's wife Betty & family. We are all grateful for his long and faithful service to our country and the UNC NROTC midshipmen who carry on in his legacy of comradeship.

YNCM Donald Ledford (Staff) 1980-1987 and 1989-2003

The UNC NROTCAA is developing plans for a Celebration of Life open to UNC NROTC alumni and Master Chief's local friends. That celebration is tentatively planned for Sunday morning, 20 November at the Armory. More information will be published as it is confirmed.



As a service to our members, we have created a new feature on the website available for paid members entitled [Deceased Alumni](#). The feature may be found on the Alumni Service and Information Resource tabs of the website. Please notify the Secretary if you know of errors or additional alumni who should be listed here. If you know of a UNC NROTC Alumnus who has passed away, let us know so that this information may be reported in the News Bulletin under "Taps". Please send your announcements to secretary@uncnrotcaa.org.

This message was sent to you by {[UNC NROTC Alumni Association](#)}

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Naval Armory is located at 221 South Columbia St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514

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