For immediate release: May 27, 2022

Contact:
Heather Epkins, Ph.D., Director of Strategic Communications
USNA Alumni Association and Foundation
heather.epkins@usna.com

USNA CLASS OF 1972 PRESENTS SPECIAL GIFT TO CLASS OF 2022
DURING 2022 GRADUATION CEREMONY

ANNAPOLIS, MD – As part of the United States Naval Academy Alumni Association’s Another Link in the Chain program, members from the United States Naval Academy Class of 1972 will participate in the graduation exercises at the Naval Academy, to be held at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium on Friday, 27 May 2022.

Representatives from the Class of 1972 will present a set of gold Ensign (Navy) or 2nd Lieutenant (Marine Corps) insignia bars to each graduate after they receive their diploma. The gold bars are inscribed with the class years that span a half century, “72-22.”

“Our alumni connect on many powerful levels, including the presentation of the gold bars through our Another Link in the Chain program,” said Robert Gast, Senior Executive in Charge of the USNA Alumni Association and Foundation. “The gold bars are a symbol of a bond uniting all Academy graduates. We are grateful to the Class of 1972 for their support and mentorship of the class of 2022 over the past four years and congratulate them on the opportunity of being the first to welcome the class of 2022 into our alumni family.”

The Class of 1972 began their relationship with the Class of 2022 on Induction Day in July 2018 and have attended numerous events over the past four years with the midshipmen, including the melding of donated rings from the Class of 1972 with the gold used to manufacture Class of 2022 rings.

Members of the Class of 1972 presenting insignia bars this year include:
● Dr. Gene M. Kohler
● CDR Robert C. Leib, USN (Ret.)
● Mr. William G. Moffatt
● CDR Richard A. Robison, USN (Ret.)
● CAPT Edward G. Bagley III, USN (Ret.)
● CAPT Alfred J. Olsen, USN (Ret.)
● Mr. Jeffrey R. Beard
● CDR Gary L. Coyle, USN (Ret.)
● Mr. Donald J. Gersuk
● Col William L. Groves, USMC (Ret.)

###

The U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation is a non-profit, independent corporation with more than 68,000 members, more than 70 active alumni classes, and more than 100 chapters around the world. For more information, visit www.usna.com.