

ADMIRAL HENRY G. CHILES JR., USN (RET.)



Henry G. Chiles Jr. was born and raised up the road from the Academy in Baltimore and Linthicum, MD. As a first class midshipman, “Hank” was a Midshipman Company Commander and graduated with distinction. He was awarded the Thompson Trophy for promoting athletics, having helped propel Navy to the national lacrosse championship in 1960 as a third-string All-American. The *Lucky Bag* noted his “constant hustle and competitive spirit,” calling him “one of the most prominent men in his class.”

Following commissioning, Admiral Chiles served aboard USS BORIE (DD 704), followed by submarine training in 1961 and nuclear propulsion training to begin his long service in nuclear submarines.

Between 1963 and 1973 he served aboard multiple nuclear submarines, including the USS TRITON, USS TECUMSEH, Submarine Squadron 15 staff in Guam and USS DRUM, taking a break to receive a Masters of Arts from Oxford University as a CNO Scholar in politics, philosophy and economics.

Admiral Chiles returned to life underwater in 1976 aboard the USS GURNARD for an under-ice deployment in the Arctic, assuming command upon return. He was reassigned in 1980 to serve as Special Assistant to the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Other posts included Commander, Submarine Squadron Three; Commander, Naval Training Center, San Diego; Director, Strategic Submarine Division; Deputy Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Undersea Warfare); Commander, Submarine Group Eight in Naples, Italy, and Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic where he significantly changed attack submarine force operations after the end of the Cold War.

Admiral Chiles was assigned as Deputy Commander, United States Strategic Command in 1993, and less than a year later, was appointed Commander in Chief, responsible for all U.S. Air Force and Navy strategic nuclear forces. He was the first Admiral to lead the U.S. Strategic Command.

During his 36-year career, he was awarded the DOD Distinguished Service Medal, Navy Distinguished Service Medal, five Legion of Merits, and other decorations.

CLASS OF 1960



Retiring in 1996, he returned to the Academy in 1999 for three years in the McMullen Distinguished Chair of Leadership. His teaching style and years of experience made Admiral Chiles an ideal and very popular teacher, adding much to the Academy's curriculum. He has served on multiple councils, boards, and committees, including Sandia National Laboratories, The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, the National Defense University Capstone Program, Naval Submarine League, Naval Academy Foundation (Athletic and Scholarship Programs), McDonogh School as a trustee, National Military Family Association and Dolphin Scholarship Foundation. As the National Chairman of the Submarine Centennial Celebration in 2000, he successfully urged the U.S. Postal Service to issue stamps honoring the Submarine Service.

In 2006, Admiral Chiles addressed the incoming Class of 2010 at the Reaffirmation Ceremony, welcoming 2010 aboard, citing the many years of service of the Class of 1960 including the heroic, inspirational leadership of Lieutenant General Bill Keys, USMC, and other exemplary classmates, and urging their acceptance and practice of honor, courage and commitment.

His wife, Katy, was a Navy Relief volunteer, led the spouse portion of the Capstone Course for newly selected flag and general officers and was president of the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation.

Admiral Chiles's peers describe him as a "superb naval officer and great gentleman and American," "a truly outstanding role model for today's Midshipmen," "possessing great integrity" with a "record of achievement that very few Naval officers have attained." His service to the Navy and Academy has been nothing less than outstanding.