



United States Navy Biography

ADMIRAL WILLIAM J. HOUSTON

Class of 1986

**Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program
Department of the Navy/Department of Energy**

Vice Admiral Houston is a native of Buffalo, New York and graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He was commissioned via the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) program. He also holds a Master's of Business Administration degree from the College of William and Mary's Mason School of Business.

His sea tours include division officer assignments on USS Phoenix (SSN 702), Engineer Officer onboard USS Hampton (SSN 767), and Executive Officer onboard USS Tennessee (SSBN 734)(B). He commanded USS Hampton (SSN 767) in San Diego and was commodore of Submarine Squadron 20 in Kings Bay, Georgia.

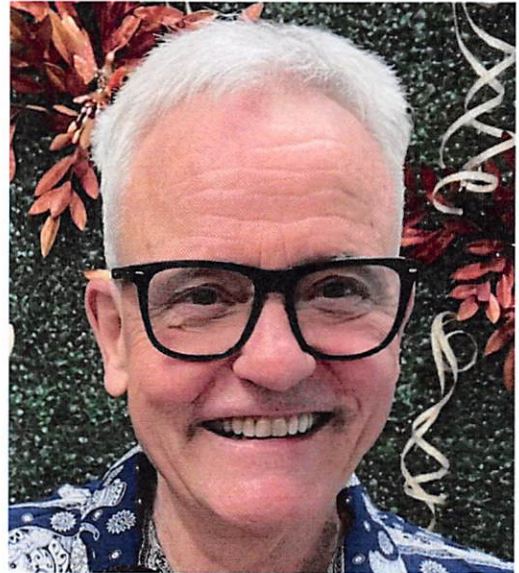
His shore assignments include Flag Lieutenant for Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; the Atlantic Fleet Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board; Special Assistant to the Director of Naval Reactors for Personnel and Policy; Deputy Commander for Submarine Squadron 20; the Principal Director for Nuclear Matters within the Office of the Secretary of Defense; the Submarine and Nuclear Community Manager, Military Personnel Plans and Policy (N133) and Division Director of Submarine and Nuclear Propulsion Distribution, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-42).

His Flag assignments include Deputy Director for Strategic Targeting and Nuclear Mission Planning (J5N) United States Strategic Command, Director of Operations, Naval Forces Europe-Africa Deputy Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet, and Commander, Submarine Group 8, Director, Undersea Warfare Division, Office of Chief of Naval Operations (N97), Commander, Naval Submarine Forces, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and Commander, Allied Submarine Command

Admiral Houston assumed his duties as Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program in January 2024.



JOHN P. RUMRICH CLASS OF 1972



John Rumrich's curriculum vitae is an impressive testament to his extensive contributions to the field of English literature. With a Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Virginia and a distinguished career at the University of Texas at Austin, he has held prestigious positions such as the Celanese Centennial Professorship and the A. J. and W. D. Thaman Professorship in the Department of English.

Throughout his career, Rumrich has demonstrated a commitment to scholarship, teaching, and service. As the editor of *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* and a member of various academic committees, he has played a significant role in shaping the discourse in his field. Additionally, his involvement in international academic collaborations and visiting professorships underscores his global impact on literary studies.

Rumrich's list of honors, grants, and awards reflects the esteem in which he is held by his peers, including being designated as an Honored Scholar of the Milton Society of America. His numerous publications, including monographs, edited collections, articles, and book chapters, highlight his expertise in John Milton and seventeenth-century British poetry. Notably, his editorial work on the Norton Critical Edition of *Seventeenth Century Poetry* and editions of Milton's works for the Modern Library have made these seminal texts accessible to a broader audience.

Furthermore, Rumrich's engagement with digital humanities, as evidenced by his contributions to multimedia audio-texts of *Paradise Lost*, demonstrates his commitment to innovative pedagogical approaches.

In addition to his scholarly pursuits, Rumrich has supervised several dissertations, contributing to the development of emerging scholars in the field. Overall, John Rumrich's curriculum vitae is a testament to his multifaceted contributions as a scholar, teacher, editor, and mentor in the field of English literature.

CHARLES "CHUCK" GRUNZWEIG CLASS OF 1980



Born in Buffalo, NY, on May 24th, 1962, Charles H. Grunzweig was raised in a family of strong values and a deep sense of community. As the son of the late William and Carmella Grunzweig, and alongside his siblings William Jr., Elizabeth, and Henry, Charles learned the importance of hard work, dedication, and service from an early age.

After graduating from Grand Island High School in 1980 with an occupation certificate in Auto Mechanics, Charles embarked on a remarkable journey in the automotive industry. In 1979, his father purchased Johns Towing, a small towing business, marking the beginning of a legacy that would flourish under Charles's leadership.

Under Charles's guidance, Johns Towing evolved from a modest operation with just two small wreckers to a thriving enterprise deeply rooted in the community. With a strong presence serving the Town of Tonawanda police, Kenmore police, and UB police departments, Johns Towing became synonymous with reliability, efficiency, and professionalism.

Throughout the years, Charles spearheaded numerous expansions and innovations within the company. In 1984, Johns Towing relocated to 1121 Sheridan Drive, where it stands today. By 1988, a new truck repair shop was added to accommodate the growing fleet.

In 2011, recognizing the need for marine services, Charles introduced a Tow Boat for on-water towing and salvage operations on the Niagara River. Subsequently, in 2017, the company expanded its services to include emergency enclosure of buildings struck by vehicles and enclosing house fires for local municipalities.

As President of Johns Towing, Charles's commitment to excellence extends beyond business success. He is deeply involved in community initiatives and public service. His list of accomplishments is extensive, including:

- Continuous training in the automotive industry, heavy-duty towing, and recovery.
- Active participation in cross-training with local Fire Departments and First Responders.
- Membership in NITTEC (Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition) since 2009.
- Establishment of HDRR (Heavy Duty Rescue and Recovery training) in 2009.
- Instructing First Responders on Highway Safety Awareness for NITTEC in 2010.
- Serving as Chairman for the town of Grand Island Traffic Safety Advisor Board from 2015 to 2023.
- Recognition for community service, including awards from the Town of Tonawanda Youth Board and the Ken-Ton Chamber of Commerce.

Beyond his professional and community commitments, Charles finds solace and joy in his hobbies, which include hunting, fishing, making maple syrup, and embarking on outdoor adventures with family and friends.

Charles H. Grunzweig's life journey exemplifies the spirit of entrepreneurship, dedication to community, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. As a leader, mentor, and philanthropist, he continues to inspire those around him to strive for greatness and make a positive impact on the world. Charles is happily married to Gina and has three children, Christina, Carmella, Charles and five grandchildren.