

SPECIAL EVENT – RIDE-2-REMEMBER CROSS COUNTRY BIKE RIDE

Background

The Class of 1973 Ride-2-Remember is a cross country bicycle ride undertaken to symbolically gather deceased classmates back to Annapolis for our 50th reunion..

Ride Format

This will be a thru-ride, which translates to a core team advancing as a group and riding the full 3,200 mile route.

Segment rides organized by classmates, family and friends who want to share a few hours or days along the route are welcomed. Contact Doug Leland or review **Ride-2-Remember Segment Rides** for details on how to best coordinate segment rides with the overall ride.

Route

We begin where Spruance, McCain, Kincaid and Halsey Roads connect with Nimitz Drive atop Navy Heights in Astoria, Oregon. Our route to Annapolis will pass through Portland, OR; Boise, ID; Jackson Hole, WY; Casper, WY; Norfolk, NE; Des Moines, IA; East Moline, IL; LaPorte, IN; Perrysville, OH; Pittsburgh, PA; Cumberland, MD; and Washington D.C. A complete listing of overnight stops can be found at the **Ride-2-Remember Daily Itinerary**.

The total mileage is 3,166 miles, which includes 92,000 feet of elevation gain. We'll cover this route in 64 days — 54 riding days and 10 “liberty” days. The route includes 986 miles of cycleway or off-road trail suitable for touring bikes.

Ride-2-Remember Dates

The Ride-2-Remember will begin on Friday, 8/4/23 at Navy Heights in Astoria, OR and conclude in Annapolis mid-afternoon on Thursday, 10/5/23 ... the first day of planned 50th Reunion activities.

October 5, 2023 - the Final Day of Riding

The final day of the Ride-2-Remember will begin at Arlington National Ceremony where the '73 Ride-2-Remember Team will join with the Class of '83 team also crossing the country on bicycle. Following a ceremony at Arlington, we will proceed to ride the last 42 miles together and conclude both cross country rides with a ceremony in the Yard at the Columbarium.

Why We're Riding

The primary purpose of the Ride-2-Remember is to honor our fallen classmates by symbolically gathering each to Annapolis for our 50th reunion. Each day during the 64 day crossing will be dedicated to one or more of our deceased classmates. At the **Class of 1973 website** you'll find two documents identifying the specific day we'll be honoring each of our deceased classmates. One is a **schedule of tributes, by day**, for each day of the Ride-2-Remember and the other is a **roster of deceased classmates organized by company** and also containing the day of individual tributes.

A **Facebook portal** dedicated to the Ride-2-Remember will be activated prior to our start and used to acknowledge each classmate tribute, and to provide daily updates and postings from our ride. It is hoped that this Facebook page will be utilized by family, classmates, shipmates and friends to share personal tributes, photos, and memories.

Is there still opportunity to ride with the team?

There are two possible ways to participate as a rider. In each instance, you'll want to get in touch with Doug Leland for details.

— **Segment Rider** - *for those who want to jump in and ride for a few hours or days with the team.* Contact Doug Leland or review the **Ride-2-Remember Segment Rides** for details on how to best coordinate segment rides with the overall ride.

— **Last Day Rider** - *for those who want to ride the last 42 miles from Arlington to Annapolis.* The Class of '83 is anticipating over a 100 riders on the last day. Logistics for safe passage have not been ironed-out and it's possible '83 and '73 may run into local constraints depending upon number

of riders. If interested, however, contact Doug Leland so that we know of your interest and have a means to keep you informed of planning status.

Important Links

- **Daily Route Itinerary**
- **Daily Tribute Schedule**
- **Tribute Roster by Company**
- **Segment Ride Guidance**
- **Final Day POD**
- **Team Biographies**
- **Doug Leland Contact**

It is hoped that all in our class, along with families and friends of fallen classmates, and other alums will participate in the Ride-2-Remember, either vicariously through the Ride-2-Remember portal, by riding with the team for a few miles, by providing support along the way, or being present at the Columbarium for the final ceremony. Our deceased classmates remain links in *our* chain, and this is one opportunity to honor their contributions to country, family, and the lives of those in the Class of 1973.

Non Sibi,

Doug

Doug Leland
doug@DougLeland.com
207-522-7620