



Celebrating 50 years of NU Trailblazers!

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Semper Fi on The Hill: Adrienne Evertson '90 and Meg Reardon '85



Adrienne Evertson '90 (left), a Criminal Justice major from Cincinnati, OH, entered Norwich University with the intent to continue the family legacy of naval service. Led by her grandfather who served in the Navy during WW II, her father is a retired Navy Captain, and her older brother is a naval officer. However, during her sophomore year, Adrienne decided to forge her own path and sought a commission in the United States Marine Corps. She was accepted into the Platoon Leaders Course and went to Officer Candidate School in Quantico, VA in the summer of 1989. Of the eleven Norwich students to attend OCS that summer, she attained the highest performance grade and received the Marine Corps League Award for that achievement.

While at Norwich she was a member of Band Company, a four-year letter athlete in soccer and co-captain her senior year. She was on the swim team and played rugby for two years.

In 1990, Adrienne made history by becoming Norwich's first female to earn a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps, standing out among the ten seniors commissioned that spring. Following her 20-year distinguished career in uniform, Adrienne continues to serve the Marine Corps as a Manpower Analyst.



While Adrienne holds the distinction of being the first female cadet to earn a Marine Corps commission, it's important to recognize that the trailblazing spirit extends to **Margaret "Meg" Reardon '85** (left). An International Studies major from Syosset, NY, Meg went to her local military recruiting station at the conclusion of her sophomore year intending to join the Air Force Reserves. However, she serendipitously enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves when the Air Force recruiter was unavailable.

In July 1983, before the start of her junior year, Meg found herself enduring Marine Corps boot camp on Parris Island. Upon her return to Norwich that fall, she became the first female to wear the coveted USMC cover on The Hill. In addition to serving our nation, Meg dedicated herself to serving the youth through the public school system.

These two women, whether adorned with a gold bar on the shoulder or stripes on the sleeve, left an indelible mark as trailblazers for their service in the United States Marine Corps, breaking barriers and inspiring future generations.

SEMPER FIDELIS!

Records documenting women's history and experience at Norwich are available through the University Archives. <https://archives.norwich.edu/>

In 1972, Vermont College merged with Norwich University. 2024 marks the **50th anniversary** of the first women to live on the Northfield campus and the first to join the NU Corps of Cadets—two years prior to the US Service Academies!

Women Kicking Glass is hosting Dressing for Success

An event providing our students with professional work attire and support to succeed in work and life.

Help fill our clothes racks. We are seeking donations of gently worn and fashionable women's work outfits.

[See more here.](#)