

IMPACT

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Featured article:
HUAN NGUYEN

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Huan Nguyen was promoted to rear admiral at a ceremony with Vice Admiral Tom Moore Oct. 10 at the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C.

CEAT alumnus makes history in U.S. Navy

An Oklahoma State University alumnus has become the first Vietnamese American rear admiral in the United States Navy.

Huan Nguyen, who earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology in 1981, received his official promotion at a ceremony on Oct. 10 at the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Nguyen, 60, will serve as the deputy commander for cyber engineering at the Naval Sea Systems Command at the Washington Navy Yard. Naval Sea Systems Commander Vice Adm. Tom Moore served as the presiding officer at the promotion ceremony.

"It is a great honor to attain the rank of admiral," Nguyen told the audience at the ceremony. "I am tremendously humbled to become the first Vietnamese American to wear the flag rank in the U.S. Navy.

"The honor actually belongs to the Vietnamese American community, which instilled in us a sense of patriotism, duty,

honor, courage and commitment to our adopted country, the United States of America," he added.

Nguyen was born in Hue, Vietnam, to an armor officer in the Vietnamese army. In 1968, during the Tet Offensive, his parents, five brothers and sister were killed by Viet Cong Communist

guerillas in their home outside Saigon. Nguyen was shot in the arm, thigh and skull. Amazingly, the 9-year-old survived and was taken in by his uncle, a colonel in the Vietnamese air force. In 1975, they immigrated to the United States after the fall of Saigon.



Huan Nguyen and his family celebrate after his promotion to rear admiral.