

Hi '06- I wanted to pass along a quick personal note and an exciting announcement for several of our classmates.

On a personal note, my husband and I, Major Nic Vasquez (Army, but a West Florida grad and not a West Pointer), welcomed our first (and only) little boy, Elijah Nathaniel Vasquez on April 29, 2022. He has lots of energy, the sweetest laugh, and has finally mastered the art of sleeping all night- a feat many of us haven't seen since plebe year! Nic and I are currently stationed in the DC area. I'm at the Washington Navy Yard as an EDO and Nic is an ROTC instructor at the University of Maryland. We have season Navy tickets-Nic actually cheers for Navy- so if you find yourself in the area, please reach out! **Insert Photo 1 here - Class06#1** (Caption: Katie (Gerhard) Vasquez '06, her dad (CAPT (Ret) John Gerhard, '77, and Elijah Vasquez, '44). **Insert Photo 2 here - Class06#2** (Caption: Katie (Gerhard) and Elijah Vasquez) **Insert Photo 3 here - Class06#3** (Caption: Nic, Katie, and Elijah).

On an equally exciting note, here are a couple of updates to the current Alumni House. During the pandemic, the current Alumni House was put up for sale and purchased by a group that was comprised largely of 2006 alumni. The Alumni House will be turned into an historic inn under the new name of Ninth Wing and provide new accommodations right outside of Gate 3. We are currently renting it back to the Alumni Association while their new building is being built (across from the baseball field) and working on permits, drawings, and all the other tape we have to navigate to open it up. We are aiming at opening up late summer/early fall of 2023 based upon when we can start the renovations. Standby for more updates and possibly a future article in Shipmate with more details!

Thanks!

Katie (Gerhard) Vasquez