

John Warner  
SSN 785

Keel Laying Ceremony  
March 16, 2013

The bow unit for the submarine *John Warner* (SSN 785) is moved between construction sites at Newport News Shipbuilding.





## About the Submarine

*John Warner* (SSN 785) is the 12th *Virginia*-class fast attack submarine and the sixth to be delivered to the U.S. Navy by Newport News Shipbuilding. While other *Virginia*-class submarines have been named after U.S. states, SSN 785 holds the distinction of being named after a person – a man who has served his country throughout his entire adult life as a Navy enlisted sailor, a Marine lieutenant, Secretary of the Navy and a U.S. Senator.

Construction of the 377-foot submarine began in 2009 and is well underway, with the stern, sail, bow and other internal compartments being constructed as separate modules. The *Virginia*-class construction program has been lauded by the Navy as a model of efficiency and quality, consistently delivering the ships ahead of schedule. Newport News Shipbuilding is teamed with General Dynamics Electric Boat, pursuant to laws enacted by Congress, to build the *Virginia*-class submarines. Components and parts for the submarines come from subcontractors across America.

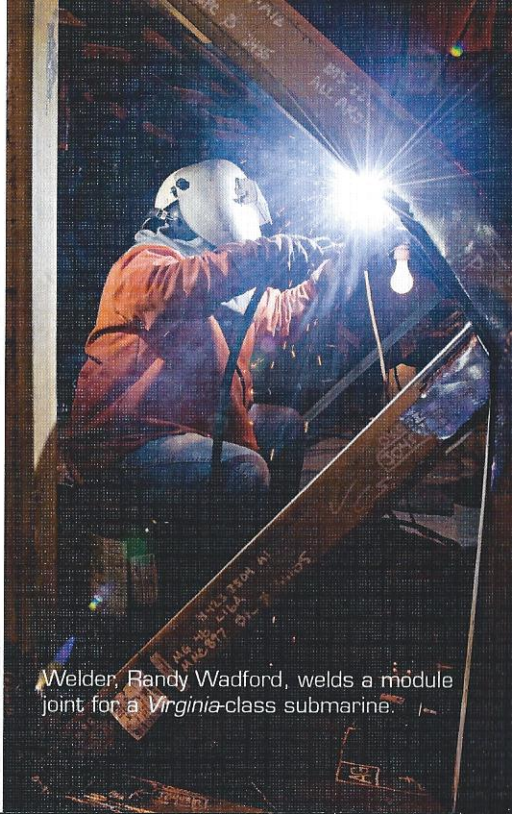
## *Virginia*-class submarines

- Are the most advanced submarines in the world
- Will maintain the nation's undersea supremacy well into the 21st century
- Require five years to build
- Are 377 feet long, 34 feet in diameter and displace 7,800 tons submerged
- Are capable of submerged speeds in excess of 25 knots
- Have a crew complement of 120 sailors and officers
- Can stay submerged for periods of up to three months at a time



## The Sponsor **Jeanne Warner**

Jeanne Warner was born in London, England to American parents, lived in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth, South Africa until she was 16 and then moved to the United States. She graduated from The Ohio State University and moved to Alexandria, Virginia in 1964. She has been a Realtor in the Northern Virginia area for 24 years. She married Senator John Warner in 2003 and they reside in the Belle Haven community in Alexandria. Jeanne is on the board of the Alexandria Symphony and actively supports many local charities. She is also the sponsor of the nuclear-powered submarine *John Warner* (SSN 785).



Welder, Randy Wadford, welds a module joint for a Virginia-class submarine.

## The Ceremony

### **PATRIOTIC MUSIC**

U.S. Fleet Forces Band  
Brass Quintet  
Under the direction of  
MU1 William Parrish

### **PARADE THE COLORS**

Submarine Squadron Six  
Color Guard

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Lt. Cmdr. Brian Souder  
Navigator/Operations Officer  
PCU JOHN WARNER

### **INVOCATION**

Ms. Betty Hazelwood  
Pipefitter  
Newport News Shipbuilding

### **WELCOME REMARKS**

Mr. Matt Mulherin  
President  
Newport News Shipbuilding

### **REMARKS**

Mr. Kevin Poitras  
President  
General Dynamics Electric Boat

### **REMARKS**

Vice Admiral Michael Connor  
Commander  
Submarine Forces

### **REMARKS**

Admiral John Richardson  
Director  
Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program

### **REMARKS**

The Honorable Bobby Scott  
United States  
House of Representatives  
3rd Congressional District, Virginia

### **REMARKS**

The Honorable Randy Forbes  
United States  
House of Representatives  
4th Congressional District, Virginia

### **REMARKS**

The Honorable Mark Warner  
United States Senate  
Commonwealth of Virginia

### **INTRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER**

The Honorable Sean Stackley  
Assistant Secretary of the Navy  
Research, Development & Acquisition

### **PRINCIPAL REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF THE SPONSOR**

Senator John Warner  
SSN 785's Namesake

### **REMARKS**

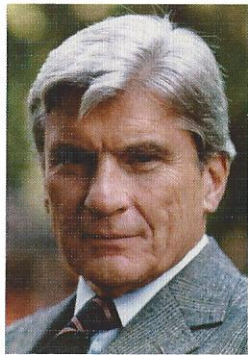
Mrs. Jeanne Warner  
Sponsor

### **KEEL LAYING AND AUTHENTICATION**

Mr. Matthew Shilling  
Welder, Newport News Shipbuilding

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Mr. Matt Mulherin



## The Namesake **John Warner**

John Warner has served his country throughout his entire adult life as a Navy enlisted sailor, a Marine lieutenant, Secretary of the Navy and a U.S. Senator for Virginia.

During his 30 years in the Senate, he served on the Senate Armed Services Committee, including three periods as Chairman and two periods as Ranking Republican, and was viewed as one of the most influential senators on military and foreign policy issues. At varying times, the Senator also served on the Senate Health, Education, and Pensions Committee; Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence (where he served as Vice Chairman for several years); Commerce Committee; Environment and Public Works Committee; and Rules Committee (where he served as Chair for several years). Most recently, he was the lead co-sponsor with Senator Joseph Lieberman (I-Conn.) on energy legislation, and with Senators Webb, Hagel and Lautenberg, put through the U.S. Senate the current G.I. Bill for uniformed personnel and their families.



The Senator volunteered for two periods of active military duty: the first as an enlisted sailor in the final years of World War II (1945-46), and the second as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Marines during the Korean War (1950-52).

After completing his law degree at the University of Virginia School of Law, he clerked for The Honorable E. Barrett Prettyman, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. From 1955 to 1960, the Senator was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia. He joined Hogan & Hartson as an associate in 1961 and became a partner in 1964.

He left Hogan & Hartson in 1969 when he was appointed, and confirmed by the Senate, as Under Secretary, and later as Secretary, of the U.S. Navy, positions he served in for a total of more than five years during the Vietnam War.

Between 1974 and 1976, the Senator served as Administrator for the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, where he administered federal programs in all 50 states and with 22 foreign nations that participated in this historic 200-year anniversary of the founding of our nation.

Subsequently, he waged two years of political campaigning, winning election to his first of five Senate terms in November 1978. On January 3, 2009, he completed his fifth consecutive term and decided to retire, establishing a record of being the second longest-serving U.S. Senator in the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia.



**Newport News Shipbuilding**  
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