

Rear Admiral Richard P Terpsta



Rear Admiral Richard P. Terpsta is a West Michigan native, graduating from Caledonia High School in 1970. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1974 and entered the submarine officer training program. He served subsequent sea duty assignments on several ships, and served as the commander of the U.S.S. Dallas from 1990 to 1993. Crews under Terpstra's command have received many awards and commendations for efficiency and excellence. The U.S.S. Dallas was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for operations during Desert Storm.

Terpstra served as Commander, Submarine Group 10, from 1999 to 2001. In this role he was directly responsible for the Navy's strategic nuclear forces in the Atlantic Fleet, which includes 5700 military and 2900 civilian workers. He is a graduate of the Naval War College, and served tours in various capacities for the past several years.

Admiral Terpstra is a great example of a Caledonia alumnus who has gone on to render outstanding service at the national level.