

DR. JOSEPH DITURI



Dr. Joseph Dituri is a lifelong explorer, university professor, world-record holder, retired naval commanding officer, published author, and global speaker.

Most recently he has garnered international media coverage for living underwater for 100 days. Dituri dove down on March 1st and surfaced on June 9th, 2023, living 22-feet below the surface as part of Project Neptune, a 100-day underseas mission. While below, he conducted primary research on the human body in isolated, compressed and extreme conditions, and with other scientists conducted projects aside from his. Operating from the Jules 'Undersea Lodge in Key Largo, Florida, on day 73 of the undersea mission he broke the Guinness World Record for longest time spent living in a fixed underwater habitat.

Project Neptune was a long-term study of the physiological and psychological effects of compression on the human body and to explore, learn and discover aspects of ocean and marine life. While undersea, Dituri interacted directly with 5,579 students in 15 different countries about the importance of STEM and career paths.

Dituri developed his love for exploration and the ocean early in life and motivated him to serve 28 years in the U.S. Navy.

Dituri enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1985, where he served on various ships and shore stations. He was involved in hyperbaric system maintenance, saturation diving and ship repair. In 1995, he made his way up through the ranks after earning his B.S. in Computer Science from the University of South Carolina and was commissioned into the Special Operations Officer pipeline. He then transferred to Naval Post Graduate School where he earned his master's degree in Astronautical Engineering. His final post in the US Navy was at Special Operations Command in Special Operations Research Development and Acquisition Center Program Executive Officer – Maritime Systems, where he served as the Chief Engineer, Program Manager for Undersea Systems Technical & Certification Program.

After retirement from almost 28 years of active service in the United States navy, Dituri earned a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering with research areas of interest that included life support equipment design, high carbon dioxide environments as well as hyperbaric medicine.

A contributing author to Hyperbaric Medical Practice (4th edition), the author of numerous diver-training manuals, co-author of "Tao of Survival Underwater", as well as the Navy Diving Manual, Dituri has been published in several journals, including those produced by the Undersea Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS), the American Society of Naval Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Dituri is the Director of the Undersea Oxygen Clinic in Tampa and an associate professor at the University of South Florida, where he teaches biomedical engineering.

Dituri has three grown children, and enjoys writing and skydiving. His long-term goal is to become a civilian astronaut.

