



*Richard Williamson*

Class of 1967

Richard Williamson, a former Ambassador to the United Nations and Presidential Special Envoy to Sudan, has turned his long career serving the U.S. government into a mission to educate others about what can be done to address genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Williamson served three years in President Ronald Reagan's White House as Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs before beginning his work in multilateral diplomacy. As U.S. Ambassador to the UN offices in Vienna, his work was focused on nuclear nonproliferation. He also served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations as well as Coordinator for the Afghanistan Peace Accords. Under George H.W. Bush, he was a member of the President's General Advisory Committee on Arms Control. After a break from diplomatic service to practice law, he served in various roles as U.S. Ambassador to the UN at the Security Council, and for peacekeeping operations and counterterrorism. In 2004, he represented the U.S. as Ambassador to the Commission on Human Rights. In 2008, he was appointed President George W. Bush's Special Envoy to Sudan, where he worked to stem genocide and preserve the peace agreement between the north and south. Upon his return to private life, he devoted himself to the cause of human rights across the globe as a senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and adjunct professor at Northwestern University. At New Trier, Williamson was captain of the football and wrestling teams, president of the N Club, a member of Tri-Ship, and an Eagle Scout.

