



Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale  
PRESIDENT, 13 OCTOBER 1977–22 AUGUST 1979  
Oil on Canvas  
Margaret H. Sargent, 1979

In 1965, James Bond Stockdale (1923–2005) commanded Carrier Air Wing 16 and was shot down and taken prisoner by the North Vietnamese. Upon his release from captivity nearly eight years later, Stockdale was promoted to rear admiral and was awarded the Medal of Honor for the valor and heroism of his leadership while the senior officer in prison camp. As the fortieth College president, Stockdale expanded the electives program to include courses on a wide variety of topics, some of which related indirectly or not at all to naval warfare and cognate themes, and he personally taught, with Professor Joseph Brennan, a course on military ethics that was inspired by his own experiences as a prisoner of war. After retirement, he was an independent candidate for Vice President of the United States in 1992 on the election ticket with H. Ross Perot. Together they gained 18.9 percent of the popular vote. USS *Stockdale* (DDG 106) is named in his honor.

*Gift of the Naval War College Foundation*

*Ac. 1979.21.01*