

THE HONORABLE JOHN H. DALTON '64

The Honorable John H. Dalton, a native of New Orleans, attended Louisiana State University for a year before coming to the Naval Academy, where he found success in athletics, academics and leadership. He graduated with distinction, having served as Deputy Brigade Commander. Named a Rhodes Scholarship finalist while serving aboard the submarine BLUEBACK, he later began nuclear power training and continued his submarine service aboard JOHN C. CALHOUN. Those tours provided the foundation for a career in national service that culminated with his term as the 70th Secretary of the Navy under President Bill Clinton.

Dalton became a lieutenant on active duty and was promoted to lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve. He launched a career in banking with Goldman Sachs in the early 1970s before answering the call of President Jimmy Carter '47 to serve as president of the Department of Housing and Urban

Development's Government National Mortgage Association. He also served as a member and later chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board before returning to the private sector with leadership positions with the Gill Companies, Freedom Capital Corporation, Mason Best Company and Stephens Inc.

President Clinton nominated Dalton as Secretary of the Navy in 1993, a position he held until 1998. As his tenure came to an end, he received the National Security Caucus' 1997 International Security Leadership Award, recognizing his "leadership and vision in promoting American sea power and a bipartisan maritime strategy." Dalton is the only service secretary ever to receive this award. He has also received U.S. military decorations as well as decorations from the governments of Bahrain and Ecuador.

Dalton led the Navy during a particularly difficult time in its history, addressing issues such as the Tailhook

"Having known John since 1975, I continually have been impressed with his initiative, diligence and perseverance in every task starting with my presidential campaign through his service as Navy Secretary."

—The Honorable James E. Carter Jr. '47
39th President of the United States
2002 Distinguished Graduate



incident, cultural changes surrounding gender and sexual identity in the military and the suicide of Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Jeremy "Mike" Boorda, USN. Dalton exemplified constant concern for the men and women of the naval service and continued his tireless pursuit of honor, truth, diversity and accountability for the Navy and the nation. This commitment extended to the Naval Academy, where he established the Center for the Study of Professional Military Ethics, now the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership, in 1997.

Returning to the business world, Dalton served as president of IPG Photonics, a fiber optics corporation, from 2000 to 2004 and in January 2005 became president of the Housing Policy Council of the Financial Services Roundtable, where he continues to serve. He remains engaged in the global community through his work on the boards of BGC Partners, Fresh

Del Monte Produce and Washington First Bank, as well as volunteer activities with organizations including Washington National Cathedral, Community Renewal International, the White House Historical Association and Habitat for Humanity. He was inducted into the C.E. Byrd High School Hall of Fame in 1992, Louisiana State University's Alumni Hall of Distinction in 2002 and in May 2006 received the Public Service Award from the United States Energy Association.

Dalton, who holds an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business and an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Trinity College, resides in Washington, DC, with his wife, Margaret. The couple, known for their passionate support of Navy athletics and personal generosity to the Academy through the Naval Academy Foundation as President's Circle donors, has two sons and four grandsons.