

James L. Holloway III

Admiral James L. Holloway III, USN (Ret.)

Distinguished Graduates Award—2000



Class of 1943

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War was raging across the world's oceans as James L. Holloway III entered the Naval Academy Class of 1943. Jim still found time for athletics, earning a letter in wrestling, despite graduating in three years. His *Lucky Bag* write-up called him "the naval officer John Paul Jones hoped all of us might be."

That assessment would quickly be put to the test under fire, as the new naval officer served in destroyers in the North Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Pacific.

After the war, Jim became a naval aviator, flying the F-9 during the Korean War, and mastering straight deck carrier landings. As commander of an attack squadron in the late 1950s, he could be found in many of the world's hot spots, including Lebanon, where he provided air cover for Marine landings.

After commanding the *Enterprise*—and later the entire Seventh Fleet—during the Vietnam War, Jim reported to Washington in 1974 where he became Chief of Naval Operations and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Though he retired from active duty in 1978 as a highly decorated admiral, Jim has remained active in the service of his country.

In 1980, he chaired the Special Operations Review Group that investigated the aborted Iranian hostage rescue attempt. In 1985 he directed the Vice-president's task force on combating terrorism and served as a member of the President's Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management.

Among his continuing contributions to his alma mater, Jim served as the first chairman of the Naval Academy Foundation and continues serving as Chairman Emeritus.

Jim enjoys family time with wife Dabney and their daughters, sailing the Chesapeake and working to preserve historic Annapolis.

Throughout his distinguished career, Jim has indeed been the naval officer John Paul Jones envisioned, a source of pride to his classmates and his countrymen.