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Schools
List Inside

COLLEGE PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED

These veterans helped steer their
schools through a global pandemic.

EXCLUSIVE VIDEO INTERVIEW INSIDE!

Walter "Ted" Carter
President, University of Nebraska
Navy (1981-2019)

EDUCATION ISSUE

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COLLEGE PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED

These veterans helped steer their schools through a global pandemic.

By Dan Fazio

You might not realize that dozens of US colleges, universities and vocational schools are led by military veterans. The list includes prior military from every branch who served as admirals, generals, members of Congress, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, secretaries of the Air Force and Navy, superintendents of the service academies, and even an astronaut who logged over 194 days in space and more than 48 hours during seven spacewalks. The list includes veterans from the junior enlisted ranks who had a longer ladder to climb to reach the upper echelons of higher education.

Schools led by military veterans run the gamut from community colleges to career schools to major state university systems like the University of Nebraska*, which includes the iconic Big Ten flagship campus in Lincoln. The Nebraska university system recruited retired Vice Adm. Ted Carter to be its president late last year, and just weeks after the three-star admiral took over on Jan. 1, COVID-19 hit the United States. Carter began talking to his peers across the country and noticed that schools led by veterans often were more decisive in their reaction to the crisis.

"I saw in the middle of the pandemic that there were three groups of campus leaders," Carter said. "There were those that had this bias for action — many of them were retired military, but not all. There were some that just wanted to be in disbelief and think that this would kind

of just go away. And then there were some that were waiting for just a certain amount of perfect information before they could make a decision."

University of Nebraska leaders quickly removed students from the classrooms, then in April announced they would do what was necessary to safely open the campus to in-person instruction in the fall, which happened Aug. 24.

"And we did that not just based on a whim, we did that based on science and data and what it would take to open our campus," Carter said during an interview with *G.I. Jobs*. The full interview will be included in the digital version of the magazine, available at GIJobs.com/current.

Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Md., also opened with in-person classes in late August. Donna Klinger, director of public relations and communications for the university, credits the leadership of President Timothy Trainor, a retired Army brigadier general.

"As a university led by a Army engineer, our plan involved the work of more than 100 faculty, administrators and staff and covered eight main areas from classroom pedagogy and technology to physical distancing and from athletics to monitoring and response," Klinger said. "He is an excellent leader who is successfully leading America's second oldest Catholic university at a difficult time."

There's never been a better time for schools to be led by military veterans. Here's our list of schools led by veterans.



Janine Davidson, Ph.D.

President

Metropolitan State University of Denver
Denver

Air Force (1988-1998)

Captain (O-3)

President of Colorado's third-largest public university, Janine Davidson was the first woman to fly the Air Force's tactical C-130, taught aviation and aerobatics at the Air Force Academy and served as the 32nd undersecretary of the Navy.



Michael E. Fossum

Superintendent

Texas A&M Maritime Academy
Galveston, Texas

Vice President, Texas A&M University

Air Force/Air Force Reserve (1980-2010)

Colonel (O-6)

Michael Fossum served as an astronaut for NASA from 1998 to his retirement in 2017.

He's a veteran of three space flights with more than 194 days in space and over 48 hours in seven spacewalks. During his last mission in 2011, Fossum served as the commander of the International Space Station.



Richard B. Myers

President

Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas

Air Force (1965-2005)

General (O-10)

Richard Myers logged more than 4,100 flying hours as a command pilot, including 600 combat hours. He was appointed vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by President Bill Clinton in 2000 and served as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2001 to 2005.



Eloy Ortiz Oakley

Chancellor

California Community Colleges
116 Colleges Statewide

Army (1984-1988)

Sergeant (E-5)

Los Angeles native Eloy Ortiz Oakley served four years in the Army before pursuing a higher education. Today the former sergeant serves as chancellor of the largest system of higher education in the country with 2.1 million students at 116 colleges.



Heather Wilson, Ph.D.

President

The University of Texas at El Paso
El Paso, Texas

US Air Force Academy, 1982

Air Force (1978-1989)

Captain (O-3)

Heather Wilson graduated from the Air Force Academy in the third class to admit women. She represented New Mexico in the US House of Representatives from 1998 to 2009 and served as the 24th secretary of the Air Force from 2017 to 2019.



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*School is a paid client.

RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME

The timing couldn't have been better for the University of Nebraska* to enlist a 'Top Gun leader.'

By Dan Fazio

You would think a three-star admiral who led both the US Naval War College and the US Naval Academy during his 38-year storied military career would be quite a catch to lead any American institution of higher education. It might surprise you to learn that Vice Adm. Ted Carter was not the first choice of more than one school when he retired in July 2019. He worked briefly in the tech industry before the University of Nebraska* recruited him to be the eighth president of the state system that enrolls more than 51,000 students at four campuses. The timing couldn't have been better.

"They were looking for a change agent, somebody that brought leadership," Carter said. "This was all pre-COVID-19, and as it turned out they brought somebody here that had a lot of background in military planning, knew how to make things happen, and we've been able to move that along here. As I wake up every day I feel like I truly am in the right place at the right time."

Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts called Carter a "Top Gun leader" during his investiture on Aug. 14.

"He's a decisive leader," Ricketts said. "As the pandemic came down upon us, he quickly decided to move students out of classrooms to protect their health. And then just as quickly, sent the message to the university and the entire nation — I think probably the first major university to do this — to say, 'We will be back in the fall.'"

G.I. Jobs talked to Carter about his career as a naval aviator, his transition, how he's helping the University of Nebraska actually grow during the pandemic, and his best advice for choosing a post-military career and finding your civilian identity. Here are a few edited highlights from the interview. You can watch the full interview in the digital version of *G.I. Jobs*, available at GIJobs.com/current.



Is it true you escorted Tom Cruise around the Navy Fighter Weapons School during the filming of "Top Gun"?

The detailed truth of that is, I was tagged by the instructors at Top Gun — I think this was late February of '85 — to meet him and his handler at the Miramar Officers

Club the day he arrived so that he could start his training to get into a cockpit. So he got into the swimming pool the next day. So I was his handler for that first night, and we took him to the officers club — that storied place — and got to hang out for a few hours. So yes, I was one of his first contacts.

What advice would you give about a career field that may offer great opportunities for veterans?

I would say that this is a time of reinvention. Our military comes with so much talent, they're so smart, there's almost no field they can't get into. I would say, try

to follow the passion for something you're interested in. There are a tremendous amount of opportunities out there still in IT, cybersecurity, manufacturing. When I talk about manufacturing I'm talking about companies that are now just opening up, and that's a big part of what we see here in Nebraska. And then there are the classic professions — nursing is now exploding to another level.

Transitioning service members often struggle with finding their civilian identity.

What's your advice? This starts to speak to a trait that I think is becoming more and more important than ever. Those of us who have come out of the military, we're proud

of our service, we're proud of where we've been, we wear the uniform with pride. You should never lose that. You should never let that go away. You shouldn't be afraid to talk about some of your military experiences. But, I would also submit that in today's world, one of the traits that will really move you ahead is the trait of humility. You don't have to go in and brag about yourself. People will find out who you are very quickly by just being honest and true to yourself. Speak clear and know what it is you want to say, and say it. But you don't have to convince somebody that you're the greatest fill-in-the-blank. They'll get to know that about you, and you have to be willing to try something a little bit different.



Select Top Gun Leader Career Highlights:

- Graduated US Naval Academy in 1981 and the Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun) in 1985
- Accumulated 6,150 flight hours in F-4, F-14, and F-18 aircraft
- Completed 2,016 "traps" (carrier arrested landings on 19 different aircraft carriers), a record for active and retired naval aviators. "That's right," Carter confirmed. "And as I joke, I still have most of my own teeth."
- Flew 125 combat missions in Bosnia, Kuwait, Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan
- Commanded USS Camden and aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson
- Commanded Enterprise Carrier Strike Group during Big E's final combat deployment
- Served as 54th president of the US Naval War College
- Served as 62nd Superintendent of the US Naval Academy (where he graduated in 1981)
- Inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame in 2015

CHARTING OUR COURSE
TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE
THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY OF TED CARTER
AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA



COLLEGE PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED



Clinton E. Adams
President and Chief Executive Officer
Rocky Vista University
Parker, Colo.
Navy (1976-2001)
Rear Admiral



Jack Buono
Superintendent
US Merchant Marine Academy
Kings Point, N.Y.
US Merchant Marine Academy, 1978
Navy Reserve (1978-1989)



Michael A. Alfultis, Ph.D.
President
SUNY Maritime College
New York City
US Coast Guard Academy, 1982
Coast Guard (1982-2010)
Captain (O-6)



Sean Buck
Superintendent
US Naval Academy
Annapolis, Md.
US Naval Academy, 1983
Navy (1983-Present)
Vice Admiral (O-9)



Mark C. Anarumo
President
Norwich University
Northfield, Vermont
Army/Air Force (1987-2020)
Colonel (O-6)



Brian W. Caputo, Ph.D.
President
College of DuPage
Glen Ellyn, Ill.
Army (1982-2004)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



James L. Antenen, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Dean
Wayland Baptist University
San Antonio
Air Force (1972-1993)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



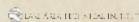
Walter "Ted" Carter
President
University of Nebraska*
Lincoln, Neb.
US Naval Academy, 1981
Navy (1981-2019)
Vice Admiral (O-9)



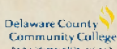
Andrew P. Armacost
President
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, N.D.
Air Force (1989-2019)
Brigadier General (O-7)



Michael Cartney
President
Lake Area Technical College
Watertown, S.D.
Air Force (1977-2007)
Colonel (O-6)



Joy Gates Black, Ph.D.
President
Delaware County Community College
Media, Pa.
Air Force (1977-1982) Air Force Reserve (1988-1990)
Sergeant



Robert L. Caslen
President
University of South Carolina
US Military Academy at West Point, 1975
Army (1975-2018)
Lieutenant General (O-9)
Former superintendent,
president of the US Military Academy at West Point



Rhett Brown
President
Wingate University
Wingate, N.C.
Navy Reserve (1986-1994)
Petty Officer Third Class (E-4)



Kevin Cieply
President & Dean
Ave Maria School of Law*
Naples, Fla.
Army/Wyoming Army National Guard (1985-2008)
Colonel (O-6)



Richard Bailey
President
Northern New Mexico College
Española, N.M.
US Air Force Academy, 1992
Air Force (1992-2016)
Colonel (O-6)



Richard M. Clark
Superintendent (awaiting Senate confirmation)
US Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colo.
US Air Force Academy, 1986
Air Force (1986-Present)
Lieutenant General (O-9)



COLLEGE PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED



Robert A. Clark

President, CEO
Husson University
Bangor, Maine
Army (1977-1981) Army Reserve (1981-1995)
Major (O-4)



Robert E. Clark II

President
Wesley College
Dover, Del.
US Naval Academy, 1984
Navy (1984-2015)
Captain (O-6)



Tim Collins, Ph.D.

President
Walsh University
North Canton, Ohio
US Air Force Academy Grad
Air Force (1982-2005)
Colonel (O-6)



Dondi E. Costin

President
Charleston Southern University
Charleston, S.C.
Air Force (1982-2018)
Major General (O-8)



Thomas A. Cropper

President
California State University Maritime Academy
Vallejo, Calif.
Navy (1981-2012)
Rear Admiral



Mike Crowley

President
REALTOR® Academy
San Antonio
Air Force (1999-2009)
Technical Sergeant (E-6)



Richard Dawe, Ph.D.

President
Ozarka College
Melbourne, Ark.
Navy (1977-2004)
Captain (O-6)



William R. Duffy II, Ed.D., Ed.S.

President
Upper Iowa University*
Fayette, Iowa
Army (1979-1998)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



Herman J. Felton, Ph.D.

President, CEO
Wiley College
Marshall, Texas
Marine Corps (8 years)



Christopher P. Gibson, Ph.D.

President
Siena College
Loudonville, N.Y.
Army (1986-2010)
Colonel (O-6)
Former member, US House of Representatives (NY-19)



Douglas A. Girod

Chancellor
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kan.
Navy Reserve (1982-1997)
Lieutenant Commander (O-4)



Mark Hagerott, Ph.D.

Chancellor
North Dakota University System
US Naval Academy
Navy
Captain (O-6)



Tanya Haggins

President
Lakewood University
Cleveland
Air Force (1983-1989)
Staff Sergeant (E-5)



Kenneth W. Hagin, Ph.D.

President
Rhema Bible Training College
Broken Arrow, Okla.
Army (1962-1965)
Specialist 4 (E-4)



William Harvey, Ph.D.

President
Hampton University
Hampton, Va.
Army/Army Reserve
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



Ronnie D. Hawkins Jr.

President
Angelo State University
San Angelo, Texas
Air Force (1977-2015)
Lieutenant General (O-9)



COLLEGE PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED



Elizabeth L. Hillman
President
Mills College
Oakland, Calif.
Air Force (1989-1996)
Captain (O-3)



Chris Howard, Ph.D.
President
Robert Morris University
Pittsburgh
Air Force (1991-1999) Air Force Reserve (1999-2012)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



Tom Jackson
President
Humboldt State University
Arcata, Calif.
Coast Guard Reserve (1978-1984)
Texa Army National Guard (2001-2002)
Texas State Guard (2003-2007)
Indiana Guard Reserve (2007-Present)



Anthony Jenkins, Ph.D.
President
Coppin State University
(University System of Maryland)
Baltimore, Md.
Army (1988-1992)



Dale Jones, Ph.D.
Chancellor & Chief Academic Officer
Penn State - Wilkes-Barre
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
US Air Force Academy
Air Force (1979-2000)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



William G. Kelly
Superintendent
US Coast Guard Academy
New London, Conn.
US Coast Guard Academy, 1987
Coast Guard (1987-Present)
Rear Admiral



Thomas W. Krise
President
University of Guam
Mangilao, Guam
US Air Force Academy, 1983
Air Force (1983-2005)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



Marty Martin
President
Drake University
Des Moines, Iowa
Air Force/Air Force Reserve (20 Years)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



James McGrath
President & Dean
Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School
Lansing, Mich.
Air Force (1975-1978)
Senior Airman (E-4)



William J. Murabito, Ph.D.
President
Niagara County Community College
Sanborn, N.Y.
Army Reserve (1968-1974)
Specialist 5 (E-5)



Robert Nye
President
Finger Lakes Community College
Canandaigua, N.Y.
Army (1983-2013)
Colonel (O-6)



Douglas B. Palmer, Ph.D.
President
Culver-Stockton College
Canton, Mo.
Army (1989-1994)
Specialist (E-4)



J.H. Binford Peay III
Superintendent
Virginia Military Institute
Lexington, Va.
Army (1962-1997)
General (O-10)



Dennis C. Rittle, Ph.D.
President
Cowley College
Arkansas City, Kan.
Air Force/Air National Guard (1988-2003)
Technical Sergeant (E-6)



M.G. "Pat" Robertson, J.D.
Founder, Chancellor and CEO
Regent University*
Virginia Beach, Va.
Marine Corps (1948-1952)
First Lieutenant (O-2)



Ann E. Rondeau, Ph.D.
President
Naval Postgraduate School
Monterey, Calif.
Navy (1974-2012)
Vice Admiral (O-9)

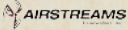


*School is a paid client.

COLLEGE PRESIDENTS WHO SERVED



M. David Rudd
President
University of Memphis
Memphis, Tenn.
Army (1987-1992)
Captain (O-3)



David E. Schulgen
Chief Executive Officer, Founder
Airstreams Renewables Inc.
Tehachapi, Calif.
Marine Corps Reserve (1978-1984)
Sergeant (E-5)



Jay Silveria
Superintendent (retiring in 2020)
US Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colo.
US Air Force Academy, 1985
Air Force (1985-Present)
Lieutenant General (O-9)



Raymond W. Staats, Ph.D.
President
Craven Community College
New Bern, N.C.
Air Force (1989-2009)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



Chris Thropp
President
SAGE Truck Driving Schools
Camp Hill, Pa.
Army (1983-1987)
Captain (O-3)



Timothy E. Trainor, Ph.D.
President
Mount St. Mary's University
Emmitsburg, Md.
Army (1983-2016)
Brigadier General (O-7)
Dean, Chief Academic Officer, US Military Academy



Jose Vargas
Interim President
Santiago Canyon College
Orange, Calif.
Army (1987-1989)
Specialist (E-4)



Thomas A. Walker, Jr., Ph.D.
President
Wayne Community College
Goldsboro, N.C.
Marine Corps (1983-1987)
First Lieutenant (O-2)



Glenn M. Walters
President
The Citadel
Charleston, S.C.
Marine Corps (1979-2018)
General (O-10)



Alexander Whitaker
President
King University
Bristol, Tenn.
Navy (1981-2007)
Captain (O-6)



Darryl A. Williams
Superintendent
US Military Academy at West Point
West Point, N.Y.
US Military Academy at West Point, 1983
Army (1983-Present)
Lieutenant General (O-9)

Honorable Mentions



Ben W. Copeland
Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services
Piedmont Virginia Community College
Charlottesville, Va.
Marine Corps (1988-2009)
Lieutenant Colonel (O-5)



Davis S. Haynes
Past President
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, Mich.
Air Force (1965-1971)



Ronald K. Machtley
President (retired 2020)
Bryant University
Smithfield, R.I.
Navy/Navy Reserve (1970-1995)
Captain (O-6)
Former US Congressman, Rhode Island



Patricia "Patty" A. Pfeiffer, Ph.D.
Vice President of Academic and Student Services
Wayne Community College
Goldsboro, N.C.
Army/Army Reserve (1982-1988)
Sergeant (E-5) 