

Roosevelt Hall of Fame



**General John Vessey Jr.,
U.S. Army Retired**

Class of 1940

University of Maryland, University College, B.S., 1963

George Washington University, M.S., 1965

Command and General College,

Industrial College of the Armed Forces

- Had a 47-year Army career, rose from 16-year old private to general.
- Served as Chairman of Joints Chiefs of Staff 1982 to 1985.
- Fought in WWII, promoted to first sergeant at age 20, battlefield promotion to 2nd lieutenant. Seven campaign stars for WWII action.
- Became an army pilot at age 48 and flew helicopters.
- Fought in Vietnam War. Awarded the *Distinguished Service Cross* for extreme gallantry and risk of life in actual combat with the enemy.
- Commanded the 4th Infantry Division, 8th US Army in Korea, Commander-in-Chief of the UN Command in Korea.
- Served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army from 1979 to 1982.
- Served three presidents as a Presidential Emissary to Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Awarded: *Purple Heart*, *Distinguished Service Medal* from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Department of Defense; and *Presidential Medal of Freedom* (1992); medals from 19 friendly and allied nations; four honorary doctorates.

Inducted September 27, 2014