

# James Earl Carter, Jr.

## 39th President, 1977-1981

**Vice President:** Walter F. Mondale

**Born:** October 1, 1924, in Plains, Georgia

**Party:** Democrat

**Parents:** James Carter and Lillian Gordy

**First Lady:** Eleanor Rosalynn Smith

**Children:** John, James Earl III, Jeffrey, Amy

**Nickname:** Hot

**Education:** U.S. Naval Academy

### Famous Firsts:

- He was the first president to be born in a hospital.
- Jimmy Carter was the first president elected from the Deep South since before the Civil War.

### Achievements:

- He served in the navy during World War II.
- After his father died, Jimmy Carter resigned from the navy, and he and his wife, Rosalynn, worked in the family's peanut-farming business.
- He was elected to the Senate in 1952.
- In 1966, he ran unsuccessfully for governor of Georgia. In 1970, he was elected governor of the state.
- The Department of Energy and the Department of Education were created under his administration.
- He conducted the Camp David accords in 1978, bringing about peace between Israel and Egypt.
- President Carter pardoned the Vietnam draft evaders.

### Interesting Facts:

- Carter was a speed-reader who could read over 2,000 words per minute with 95 percent accuracy.
- When he traveled, President Carter often carried his own luggage.
- Carter left office as one of the most unpopular presidents in history, yet he became one of the nation's most successful and active ex-presidents.
- His best remembered foreign relations event was the Iranian hostage crisis. On his final full day in office, the hostages were released.
- Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn currently serve as regular volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, a program which develops and builds housing for low-income families.

