

EUGENE B. "RED" MCDANIEL
CAPTAIN, U.S. NAVY (RETIRED)

On May 19, 1967, while on his 81st combat mission over North Vietnam, Eugene B. "Red" McDaniel was shot down while flying his A-6 Intruder aircraft. He was listed as "missing in action" until 1970, when the Hanoi government acknowledged that he was being held prisoner. A POW for six years, McDaniel was released 4 March 1973, after the Vietnam cease-fire.

Red McDaniel was one of the most brutally tortured prisoners of the Vietnam War. This torture resulted from his active role in camp communications during an organized escape attempt by his fellow prisoners. He is the author of *Scars and Stripes*, a book telling about his six years in a communist prison.

When Red McDaniel returned home from Vietnam, he was awarded the Navy's highest award for bravery, the Navy Cross. Among his other military decorations are two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit with Combat "V", the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Bronze Stars with Combat "V", and two Purple Hearts for wounds received at the hands of the North Vietnamese torturers.

Captain McDaniel resumed active duty and served as Commanding Officer of USS NIAGARA FALLS and as Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier USS LEXINGTON. He also served as Director of Navy/Marine Corps Liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives before retiring from the Navy in 1982.

Following retirement, Captain McDaniel founded the American Defense Institute, a non-profit organization to increase public awareness of the need for a strong national defense national defense. Captain McDaniel and his wife Dorothy reside in Alexandria, Virginia. They have three grown children, nine grandchildren, and one great grandson.