



## **Colonel Arthur J. Athens, USMCR (Ret.)**

**Director**

**Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership  
U.S. Naval Academy**



Colonel Athens is the Director of the U.S. Naval Academy's Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership and a member of the Academy's Senior Leadership Team.

Colonel Athens retired from the Marine Corps in July 2008 with over 30 years of service. As a Marine Officer, he commanded units in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Aircraft Wings, served with the U.S. Space Command and instructed at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 and with the MAGTF Staff Training Program Team. Additionally, he was a White House Fellow under President Ronald Reagan; the Special Assistant to the NASA Administrator following the Space Shuttle Challenger accident; the Executive Director of OCF, a worldwide non-profit organization helping military personnel integrate their faith and profession; the Commandant of the United States Merchant Marine Academy; and the Naval Academy's first Distinguished Military Professor of Leadership.

Aside from his professional responsibilities, Colonel Athens has been a volunteer lacrosse coach at the high school and collegiate levels and the Washington Post recognized him as their High School Coach of the Year. He currently mentors collegiate athletic coaches and speaks about ethical leadership nationwide to organizations in the public, private and non-profit sectors.

Colonel Athens holds a bachelor's degree from the Naval Academy and masters' degrees from the Naval Postgraduate School and the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies. He is married to the former Mistina Root of Williamsburg, Virginia and they have ten children.