JAMES EARL "JIMMY" CARTER, JR., 39th President of the United States, born in the farming town of Plains, Georgia, became the nation's first Deep South presidential candidate elected since the Civil War. Son of farming parents, graduate of Annapolis, assistant to Admiral Hyman Rickover, deacon of his church in Plains, 76th Governor of Georgia, Jimmy Carter has been an achiever ever since his school days. If there is one achievement that surpasses each of the others, however, it is his lifelong and continuing effort to advance the cause of human rights in this nation and around the world. The Camp David Accords, a hallmark peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, and persistent and courageous efforts on behalf of human rights everywhere earned him numerous awards, including the Gold Medal of the International Institute for Human Rights and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize. It is a cause he continues to serve as energetically as ever.

ROSALYNN SMITH CARTER titled her autobiography, First Lady From Plains, and it is a most appropriate capsule description of this active and committed woman from Georgia. Married to Ensign Jimmy Carter 40 years ago, she stayed at his side as a working partner and as her own woman through the White House years. "A First Lady," she said at the time, "can have a real influence. Wives of presidents need to be informed and to speak out on matters that are important to them." Rosalynn Carter has spoken out before, during, and after those presidential years, and she continues her many activities on behalf of the young, the disadvantaged and the homeless. She is a leader in the battle for better mental health and a member of the board of directors of Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization that builds homes for the needy in the United States and around the world. She continues to travel the globe to speak to each of the issues that concern her.