CAPTAIN JAMES E. DOCKTER
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CLASS OF 1965

Jim was born in Chicago, and grew up in Louisville, Kentucky as the oldest of four children. Jim earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Kentucky in 1965. He was a member of Advanced Army ROTC, Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, the UK golf team and the first UK Men’s Volleyball team. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in December, 1965.

Jim founded PBD, Inc., a privately held corporation, October 20, 1976. The company is now known as “PBD Worldwide”. During the first five years, sales increased over 325%. Dockter’s entrepreneurial achievement was acknowledged in 1982 by INC. Magazine highlighting the “500 Fastest Growing, Privately Held Companies in the USA”. He was a finalist for “Small Business Person of the Year” 1985, in Columbus, Ohio. In 1986, PBD moved its entire operation and 15 personnel to Roswell, Georgia (30,000 square feet) to serve a large customer in the Atlanta area and to take advantage of new opportunities with regional and national book publishers. In 1992, PBD purchased Georgia School Book Depository. PBD currently represents 40 schoolbook publishers, shipping instructional materials to all schools in Georgia K-12 and teacher kits throughout the southeast. PBD received two awards in 1996 (1) INC./MCI Positive Performer National Finalist for superior customer service (2) SITE Corporation Award for its contributions to professional education.

In 1999 PBD received the IBM Award for “E-Business Solutions”. PBD and UPS International Shipping Systems were honored with the Georgia Freight Bureau “Best Practices Award” in 2000. PBD is the only company in the southeast to ship to all 220 countries served by UPS internationally, and is its largest account in the state of Georgia. In 2005, PBD was named “Georgia Family Business of the Year” after being a finalist the previous three years. A client, the American Automobile Association, named PBD the top customer service organization to serve AAA in 2003. Dockter was a finalist for Catalyst Magazine’s Agent of change in Georgia for community service. Other major honors were the 2004 and 2005 Atlanta A+ Employer (top 20) and the 2005 recipient of the Georgia Business Ethics Award, and PBD was recognized as one of Atlanta’s Best Places to Work by the Atlanta Business Chronicle in 2009 and 2010. Today, PBD is the national fulfillment center for the American Automobile Association, American Bankers Association, American Diabetes Association, American Medical Association, American Library Association, Arthritis Foundation, Life Office Management Association, PGA of America, Jones & Bartlett Publishing, The United Methodist Church, Joel Osteen Ministries, Turning Point Ministries and several other prominent organizations. Gross sales in 2010 exceeded $59 million for PBD.

In 1998, he established the Dockter Family Scholarship in Trinity High School, Louisville, Kentucky to honor his parents for providing his brother and sisters a Catholic education. A partial scholarship goes annually to a deserving junior. In 2006, Dockter was installed into Trinity High School Hall of Fame. In 2011, the Catholic Education Foundation in Louisville honored him in their “Salute to Catholic Alumni”.

Jim was married to his college sweetheart, Becky Miller, on January 15, 1966 in Deerfield, Illinois. In 1966-67, he served in Vietnam, where he received the US Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service, and left as a Captain, Transportation Corps, in 1968. He and Becky have three sons, all in the business, and nine grandchildren. Jim and Becky Dockter celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary January, 15, 2012, and PBD celebrated its 35th anniversary on October 20, 2011. Mr. Dockter is now retired, does some consulting work for PBD, and is a resident of N. Palm Beach, Florida.