

John Adams in truth did aspire to glory and fame and when he finally achieved it, it was well deserved.

1770 – Defends British soldiers on trial for the killing of 5 civilians later known as the "Boston Massacre". He argues that "It is more important that innocence be protected than it is that guilt be punished..."

1772 - Disputes the absolute policy of the British Parliament over the colonies

1773 - Writes publically that he supports the actions of the Boston Tea Party protesters

1774/77 – Appointed Massachusetts delegate to the Continental Congress where he pushes for the right of Americans to a jury trial.

1775 - Nominates George Washington Commander & Chief of the Continental Army and argues Congress for permanent severance from Britain

1776 – Appointed to the committee of 5 and makes significant contributions to the draft of the Declaration of Independence

1783 – Member of the delegation that successfully negotiated the Treaty of Paris officially ending the War for Independence

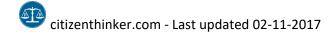
1789/96 – Became the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the U.S. under George Washington 1796 – Elected 2<sup>nd</sup> President of the U.S.

## https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John Adams

**Benjamin Franklin's** contributions to the creation of our American Nation came late in his life. He spent his early life industriously seeking countless ways to improve the lives of all human kind.

- Age 23 becomes successful newspaper editor and printer
- Known inventions: Bi-focal glasses, lighting rod, Franklin stove
- Supported the founding of University of Pennsylvania
- Appointed first postmaster general of the U.S.
- Founded first subscription library in the U.S.
- Founded the first volunteer fire company
- Created with Dr. Thomas Bond the first U.S. hospital
- Led the successful repel of the Stamp Act 1765
- Appointed ambassador to France and helped secure that nations crucial aid to win the war
- Member of the committee of 5 that drafted the declaration of independence
- At 70 he was oldest signer of the Declaration of Independence
- Only Founder Father to sign all four documents that created our nation

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benjamin Franklin



**Alexander Hamilton** devised a way to pay off the state's combined debt and by doing so, our nation was kept.

- 1775 Joined the New York volunteer Militia Company called "The Corsicans"
- 1776 Elected captain of the New York Artillery Provincial Company
- 1777 Played a pivotal role in the final victory at the battle of Princeton and is invited by General Washington to be his Chief Staff aide he is 22 years old
- 1781 Is appointed commander of 3 battalions in the decisive final battle at Yorktown
- 1782 He is appointed to the Congress of the Confederation where he becomes an out spoken supporter of a strong central government and champion of veteran's soldiers seeking promised pensions and back pay.
- 1784 Founds bank of New your which becomes the longest running banks in the U.S. history
- 1787 Authors 51 of the 85 federalists papers supporting the ratification of the new Constitution
- 1789 Washington appoints him  $1^{st}$  secretary of the treasury and two years later he is successful creating the  $1^{st}$  national bank
- 1792 As secretary of treasury he established the U.S. mint to create an American currency and to put in place control of the money supply

## https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/alexander hamilton

**John Jay** is one of the seven key founding fathers. His contributions before, during, and after the war for independence helped secure freedom from Britain and liberty and justice for all American's, past and present.

- 1774 Elected delegate from New York to the first continental congress
- 1778 Elected president of the Continental congress
- **1782** As part of a delegation which including Ben Franklin and John Adams; Jay was instrumental in negotiating the "Treaty of Paris" which ended the War of Independence from Britain.
- **1787** Contributes 5 of the 85 articles known as the Federalist papers which argued for a strong centralized government.
- 1789 Appointed by President Washington to be the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
- **1794** Negotiates the "Jay treaty" which prevents a second war with Britain.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\_Jay



Thomas Jefferson Author, Statesman, Diplomate, President, Etc...Etc.

1775 – At age 33 he was one of the youngest delegates to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress

1776 – Appointed to the committee of 5 he became the principle author of the Declaration of Independence

1777 - Authored a bill on religious freedoms for Virginia that would be included in the Bill of Rights

1779 - Elected governor of Virginia

1783 – Appointed delegate to the U.S. Congress of the Confederation where he travels to France to negotiate trade deals for the new Nation

1789 – President Washington appoints him the 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary of State

1796 – Becomes vice president

1801/09 – Elected 3<sup>rd</sup> President and serves two terms

1803 – Authorizes the Louisiana Purchase which nearly doubles the size of the country

1807 - Signs the Act Prohibiting expansion of slavery into the newly acquired Northwest Territories

## https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas Jefferson

**James Madison** may have been born a man of small stature but as the "father of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights" he was a giant among his fellow Citizen Thinkers.

1780 – At 29 he was the youngest delegate to the Continental Congress

1787 – At 36 he wrote the Virginia Plan which formed the basis for the Constitution and earned him the title "Father of the Constitution"

1787/88 - Co-author of the federalist papers writing 29 of the 85 articles over 6 months

1791 – Championed with success the addition of a "Bill of Rights to the Constitution

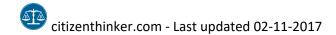
1801 – Becomes Secretary of State and oversees the acquisition of the Louisiana Purchase for president Jefferson

1809-1817 – Becomes the 4<sup>th</sup> President of the United States

1812 - As President and Commander & Chief he presides over what was called at the time the 2<sup>nd</sup> war of Independence from Britain. The successful conclusion of the war of 1812 convinced the British government that it was futile to make any future attempt to win back its former colonies.

1928-34 - Becomes face of the \$5000.00 dollar bill.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James Madison



**George Washington** did not think he was "equal" to the task of leading the Continental army to victory over the British. We should be forever grateful that he so gloriously proved himself wrong.

1767 –Took his first stance against the acts of the British Parliament opposing openly the "Stamp" and "Townsend" acts.

1774 – Chaired the Fairfax Resolve which lead to the convening of the 1st Continental Congress

1775 – Appears at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress dressed "for war" and is appointed Commander & Chief of the Continental army

1783 – After 8 years of indecisive victories on both sides and with the aid of French allies he corners British General Cornwallis at Yorktown. The resounding victory ends hostiles and leads to the signing of the Treaty of Paris officially ending the war and acknowledging the American colonies as a free and independent nation.

1787 – He is elected President of the Constitutional Convention where, he supports calls for a stronger national government fearing that without it the States would begin fighting each other and all the hard fought gains of the revolution would be lost.

September 17, 1787 – He is the first to sign the new Constitution of the United States 1789/97 – He is elected the 1<sup>st</sup> president of the Unities States of American serving to terms and establishing many of the modern Presidential traditions, inaugural speech, term limits, and the title Mr. President. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George Washington

## Source websites for the Founding Father's quote bubbles

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- http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2011/10/7-quotes-from-the-federalist-papers-you-can-use-to-win-an-election-argument-no-matter-your-political-persuasion/