

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Walter B. Wriston** retired as chairman and chief executive officer of Citicorp and its principal subsidiary, Citibank, N.A., on September 1, 1984, after having served as chief executive officer for seventeen years and in various other positions with the company for thirty-eight years.

Mr. Wriston was born in Middletown, Connecticut, on August 3, 1919, and graduated from Wesleyan University and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. Following a year's service as a U.S. State Department officer and a four-year tour with the U.S. Army during World War II, Mr. Wriston joined Citibank in 1946 as a junior inspector in the Comptroller's Division.

He was assigned to the National Division in 1949 and served in the division's Canadian and Transportation districts for seven years, becoming an assistant cashier in 1950, an assistant vice president in 1952, and a vice president in 1954.

Mr. Wriston joined the bank's Overseas Division in 1956, heading the European District for three years, and was named a senior vice president in 1958. The following year he was made head of the Overseas Division and was appointed executive vice president in 1960. Mr. Wriston became president and

chief executive officer of the bank in 1967 and of the corporation when it was formed in 1968. He became chairman in 1970.

Mr. Wriston was a director of the General Electric Company, the Chubb Corporation, and J.C. Penney, Inc. After his retirement from Citicorp, he served on other boards, including Bechtel Investments, Inc.; Pfizer; Sequoia Ventures, Inc.; Tandem Computers, Inc.; United Meridian Corporation; and ICOS Corporation. He was chairman of President Ronald Reagan's Economic Policy Advisory Board, a member and former chairman of the Business Council, and a former co-chairman and policy committee member of the Business Roundtable. He was a trustee of the American Enterprise Institute and of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, a member of the Board of Visitors of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and a life governor of New York Hospital.

Mr. Wriston's best-selling first book, *Risk and Other Four-Letter Words*, a collection of essays, was published by Harper & Row in 1986. He followed it in 1992 with the thought-provoking and influential *The Twilight of Sovereignty: How the Information Revolution Is Transforming Our World*, published by Scribner Book Company, an imprint of Simon & Schuster.

President George W. Bush honored Mr. Wriston with the Presidential Medal of Freedom on June 23, 2004.

Mr. Wriston died in 2005, leaving behind his wife, the former Kathryn Ann Dineen, whom he married in March 1968; one daughter, Catherine; a son-in-law, Richard M. Quintal; a grandson, Christopher W. Quintal; and a granddaughter, Barbara Catherine "Katy" Quintal. His first wife, Barbara Brengele, died in 1966.