John Adams (October 30, 1735 – July 4, 1826) was the 2nd President of the United States. The biggest issues for Adams as president were Britain and France. They were at war and sometimes attacked American ships. Adams kept the United States neutral and kept the peace. This hurt him politically and he lost the next presidential election. President Adams died exactly 50 years after signing the Declaration of Independence. Adams and Jefferson died on the same day, July 4, 1826, just hours apart.