

## COUPLE'S FLIGHTS LEAD THEM TO SOAR TOGETHER...

If you're a believer, you know that God puts "little signs" in our lives all the time. You'll be doing the Lord's work and lo and behold, a wonderful coincidence occurs. It's almost as if He's saying, "I am with you and rooting for you." Such is the case with our Donor Spotlight this month. How apropos that the couple we talked to were both in the airline industry, AND this is our Eagle Partners issue. This couple has soared with this ministry for thirty years, and we're so glad they made the journey with us!

Mary Dee Vaughters tells the story of how she was introduced to *Hour of Power* in 1970, the first year it was aired. "I was a flight attendant and would end up flying on Sundays, and I was missing church," she said. "I mentioned it to my grandmother and she told me about Dr. Robert Schuller, who was on TV at different times across the country and I could watch him when I was stuck in a hotel."

Many years later, after a break from the airline industry, Mary Dee returned to flying again and that's when she met her husband Jon, a pilot. Prior to becoming a commercial airline pilot, Jon was in the Navy and flew off aircraft carriers during Vietnam. "I remember meeting Bobby when he was only 18 years old!" he said. "I like the positive message and encouragement, and we're really tickled that he has continued that from his grandfather and his father. That has been the strength for us, always thinking positively. We've gone through a lot of tough times just like everybody else, and we draw upon that strength to get us through. It's our guiding light."

Jon and Mary Dee, who have been married 28 years, have a blended family of five children and seven grandchildren. Dee loves the history that she and Jon have with *Hour of Power*, noting that over the years they have made many visits to the Crystal Cathedral and now **SHEPHERD'S GROVE**. "I'm just thrilled when we can come back and visit the church and the friends we've made over the years," she said. As Eagle Partners, Jon said, "We give to *Hour of Power* and Shepherd's Grove because the message that the church has needs to be supported. We love the fact that Bobby is on TBN's Praise representing *Hour of Power* and Shepherd's Grove and is known to the world."





# HOUR OF POWER CHOIR NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

At *Hour of Power*, we enjoy reading testimonials and messages from our congregants in the U.S. and around the world. We are always delighted when we hear from musicians and conductors who are spiritually moved and inspired by our praise music and Hour of Power Choir, conducted by Dr. Irene Messoloras.

In the spirit of our viewer's affirmations, it is with great honor and excitement we announce that our beloved Choir has been recognized nationally by The American Choral Directors Association and is selected to perform at the ACDA's National Conference later this month in Cincinnati, Ohio. When you get the seal of approval from musicians and conductors from around the world, you know you're doing something right!

The Hour of Power Choir was also selected to perform at the 2021 conference, but it was a virtual platform due to the pandemic. "We are ecstatic for the Choir to be chosen again and now given the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience," Dr. Messoloras said. The theme for this year's ACDA National Conference is, "A Place of Belonging."

"We are very proud of the diversity of our 36-member choir, who hail from many different ethnic backgrounds and range in ages from 19 to their late-70s," said Dr. Messoloras, who has been conducting the choir for the past five years, and earned her Doctorate in Musical Arts from UCLA. "We don't sing for the recognition; we are honored to sing for the Lord and to help bring others to hear scripture and Bobby's inspirational messages."

The Choir has been allotted a half hour program to perform a six-song repertoire, all from underrepresented composers, which speaks to the conference's theme of belonging. The 24 choirs chosen to perform represent a mix ranging from youth to university level, community, professional and church choral groups. Dr. Messoloras added, "We truly believe that the universal language of music has the possibility to bring great joy, peace, and healing to its listeners."

