

## MARTHA DOUTHIT

Martha Douthit is a Native Texan. Her ancestors established the first civil settlement in Texas, the San Fernando Mission in San Antonio, TX, under the direction of the King and Queen of Spain.

In 1969, Martha married David A. Douthit, and on July 15, 1970, David was drafted in the Army. Martha and their daughter joined David on what started out as an 18-month tour of duty in the Army. Several tours of duty later, Martha became an expert on moving, housing, raising children, and different cultures.

On May 3, 1991, Martha's husband, Lt. Colonel Douthit, was killed while serving on active duty in the Persian Gulf War. After his death, Martha raised their two daughters while working, volunteering, attending school, and acting as a caregiver for her ailing father.

During her husband's military career, Martha found her stride in volunteerism. She began by serving in the Enlisted and Officer's Women's Clubs, at various military installations.

As an active member of her church, Martha served in positions including Director of the Children's Department, as well as a member of the Finance Committee. In other positions with her church, Martha taught Sunday school for grade school students, and worked with the Girls Auxiliary, a young women's group, teaching about church missionary activities. She has also traveled to Hungary on a church mission trip during the Cold War.

In addition to her contributions with her church, Martha has participated in numerous other volunteer jobs. As a Girl Scout Leader, Martha and her Troop spent a long year planning and budgeting for an overseas trip, and then led the Troop to Denmark to meet the Girl Guides.

In her community, Martha assisted in the planning and establishment of Herndon's Free Clinic for low-income families. She also volunteered at the clinic, both as the coordinator for all translator volunteers, and as a translator volunteer herself. Martha speaks fluent Spanish.

Martha has been a member of the Potomac Chapter of the Gold Star Wives of America for seventeen years. Gold Star Wives of America is a non-profit organization for military widows. As a member of the organization, Martha has served as Vice President of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Gold Star Wives. She has participated in various functions of the organization throughout the seventeen years of membership. Martha assisted the Habitat for Humanity organization at the Washington, D.C. National Mall, in building a home for Hurricane Katrina victims in Louisiana.

Martha received a Bachelor's of Science Degree from the American Technological University in Killeen, TX. Martha is also a graduate of the Graduate of Real Estate Institute. In 1998, Martha received a Master's of Arts Degree in International Transactions from the George Mason University, Public Policy Institute in Fairfax, VA. As a graduate student at George Mason University, Martha also studied at the University of Chapultepec in Mexico City, Mexico, in U.S. – Mexico Relations.

Martha is currently employed as an International Trade Analyst, in the Operations Department of the Import Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Martha works closely with legal, policy, and accounting teams to solve unfair trade practice.

Martha enjoys gardening, reading World History, and being with her children, grandchildren, and grand-dogs, Bear, Bella, and Murphy.