

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  December 1, 2018 | |  | | --- | | **Media Contact:** | | usopr@uso.org | |  | |

**Statement from J.D. Crouch II, USO CEO and President on the Passing of George H.W. Bush**

Today, we Americans find ourselves in the too-familiar position of mourning the passing of a great American from the Bush family, President George H.W. Bush. As a typically humble member of the Greatest Generation, he personified it. He devoted his entire life to the nation he loved so completely, from his valiant service in World War II and his service as 41st President of the United States to his impactful fundraising and coordination of humanitarian efforts in disaster relief.

To the USO he was even more than that. He was the son of a co-founder, Prescott Bush. By virtue of being President, he was the USO’s honorary chairman. By virtue of his marriage to Barbara Bush, support of the USO became a family affair. And until his passing, he remained an active supporter of the USO. On a personal note, I had the honor of serving in his presidential administration, on the team of his Secretary of Defense. I will always consider my time in his administrations to be one of the great honors of my life.

I can think of no one who lived out such complete love of family and country more than George H.W. Bush.

*###*

***About the USO:***  
*The USO strengthens America's military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation. At hundreds of locations worldwide, we are united in our commitment to connect our service members and their families through countless acts of caring, comfort, and support. The USO is a private, nonprofit organization, not a government agency. Our programs, services and entertainment tours are made possible by the American people, support of our corporate partners, and the dedication of our volunteers and staff. To join us in this important mission, and to learn more about the USO, please visit* [uso.org](http://www.uso.org/).