

UNSUNG HEROES

the story of america's female patriots



national productions

Maryland Public Television



From Academy Award Filmmaker and Executive Producer **Ron Howard**, and the creator of *For Love of Liberty: The Story of America's Black Patriots* comes a 2 hour, 2 part documentary highlighting the heroic sacrifices of women that served in the American military. Every woman that has ever served has volunteered to do so, but their profound accomplishments have been largely ignored.

This courageous heritage can be traced back to the Revolution where women donned men's clothes and took up arms against the British. And though none had the right to vote, hundreds of women participated in the Civil War as nurses, spies and soldiers. Of the 33,000 women who served their country during the Great War, some 300 lost their lives. More than 700,000 women defended America in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. As of 2014, over 150 female patriots have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

At the heart of *Unsung Heroes* are the powerful first-hand accounts of women who have actually lived the story. They include: Admiral Michelle Howard and General Ann Dunwoody, the two highest ranking women in the history of the American military, Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester who is the first woman to earn the Silver Star for heroism in combat, Mildred Manning who is the last surviving female POW from WWII, the first female Thunderbird pilot, Lt. Col. Nicole Malachowski, Captain Beverly Kelly who is the first woman to command an American warship, Deanie Parish who is one of the last surviving WWII era WASP pilots, and Wounded Warrior and recently elected member of Congress, Lt. Col. Tammy Duckworth. Others in the film include Steve Ellis whose daughter was killed in Afghanistan, Sgt. Latianna Wilson who was a victim of sexual assault and suicide survivor, and Vietnam era nurse, 1st Lt. Marsha Four who still suffers the effects of PTSD.

Rare photographs, archival materials and personal memorabilia illustrate this eclectic mix of on-camera interviews. The program is formatted thematically and the segments include: Heroes, Called to Duty, Healers, In the Line of Fire, Freedom is Not Free, Flyers, Leadership, POW's, Killed in Action and Against all Odds. It is a story of all guts and no glory and how the price of liberty is relevant to all Americans.

To view program episodes (unpacked):

Part 1: <https://vimeo.com/86058367> **password:** unsung1

Part 2: <https://vimeo.com/86074728> **password:** unsung2

For more information:

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