

# *Legacy of Honor: The Values and Influence of America's Eagle Scouts*

By Alvin Townley

Thomas Dunne Books ■ St. Martin's Press

## **Summary**

Over the past century, America's Eagle Scouts have earned a reputation for service, virtue, and leadership recognized throughout the world. But their legacy has never been truly explored – *until now*.

Author and Eagle Scout Alvin Townley set out across the country to learn the stories of these leaders. He spoke with individuals from every region, every age, and every background, some of whom have risen to fame as public figures while others have left a lasting impact outside of the spotlight.

The Eagle Scouts who shared their experiences include Bill Gates, Sr., Bill Bradley, J.W. Marriott, Jr., Ross Perot, Michael Bloomberg, Michael Dukakis, coach Chan Gailey, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson, and Capt. Jim Lovell of Apollo 13. The book also explores the virtues of a Tuskegee Airman, a POW from Vietnam, a September 11 NYPD hero, a crew of Hurricane Katrina relief workers, and a host of others from every walk of life.

During his journey, Townley discovered stories of character, courage, and inspiration that belong not only to Eagle Scouts but to all Americans. These stories form the heart of *Legacy of Honor* and offer us a chance to appreciate the profound impact that Eagle Scouts have had on American history and the lasting role they will play in our future.

## **The Author**

Eagle Scout Alvin Townley grew up in a Scouting family in Atlanta, Georgia. He graduated from Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, and has worked on Capitol Hill and served on the executive staff of an international consulting firm. He has also spoken to adult and student audiences on ethics, service, and leadership. Alvin resides in Atlanta, Georgia, where he works and coaches at Marist School. He also works with Reach for Excellence, a tuition-free program benefiting talented middle school students from underserved communities.

## **Advance praise**

"The stories captured in *Legacy of Honor* hold valuable lessons for our country as we face new challenges at home and abroad. These Eagle Scouts will inspire readers to become leaders in serving others." -- *President Jimmy Carter*

"Alvin Townley's book reveals the legacy of the Boy Scouts. He relates the adventures and deeds of Eagle Scouts living by the Scout Oath while contributing to the success of America. An excellent story that will inspire all of us." -- *Captain James A. Lovell, commander of Apollo 13*

"*Legacy of Honor* will have a positive impact on the lives of millions of boys and their families. Think what a great country we would be if we all lived the principles of Scouting." -- *Ross Perot*

"The unique leadership role in America over the past century of men who earned their Eagle Scout award as boys is unparalleled...*Legacy of Honor* explores this extraordinary phenomenon of Eagles' leadership through individual stories, both informative and inspirational." -- *Robert M. Gates, president of the National Eagle Scout Association*

"Alvin Townley's *Legacy of Honor* does justice to the proud history and bright future of the Eagle Scouts." -- *Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of New York City*

"Commitment and devotion to the bedrock principles of our country...are inseparably intertwined with Scouting. Alvin Townley does a superb job of portraying how Eagle Scouting helps shape these everyday yet incredibly powerful values that serve our families and society so well." -- *J.W. Marriott, Jr., CEO, Marriott International*

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