

Steve Ford

KEYNOTE TOPICS

Inside the White House and Hollywood: Getting to The Top with Character

On August 9, 1974 Gerald R. Ford assumed the reins of the presidency following the resignation of Richard Nixon. Suddenly, Steve Ford was thrust into the role of "First Son".

Steve's unique perspective on life as the President's son encompasses a broad range of subjects: being 18 years old and having 10 Secret Service agents, his father's pardon of President Nixon, two assassination attempts on his father's life plus inspirational stories how the family dealt with their mother's bouts with alcoholism and also how Steve conquered his own alcoholism. Steve's focus is on such issues as character, integrity, overcoming adversity and leadership while helping the audience rethink their own role in those areas. He will give a behind the scenes view of the White House and the insider anecdotes.

Steve spent 25 years as an accomplished actor and appeared in over 25 major motion pictures such as the hit Transformers, Blackhawk Down, Contact, Armageddon and playing Meg Ryan's boyfriend in When Harry Met Sally. He has served as Chairman of the President Gerald R. Ford Foundation and currently serves as a trustee on that board.

LEADERSHIP

What makes a great leader?

History shows that those who have sought service over self-interest in times of indecision, turmoil and crisis are regarded as true leaders.

On August 9, 1974, Vice President Gerald R. Ford became the 38th President of the United States when President Richard Nixon resigned his office in disgrace because of the Watergate scandal.

Today, most historians and political observers agree that President Ford's difficult (and, at the time controversial) decision to pardon Nixon was the right thing to do and was in the country's best interest. His leadership with character helped heal a nation and restored confidence in the office of the President of the United States.

President Ford's son, Steve, talks about what it takes to be a good leader and some of the traits of leadership.