

November 8, 2019

DEJOY\WOS Family Foundation Sponsors Triumph of Liberty Gala Dinner

Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

The DEJOY\WOS Family Foundation is a proud sponsor of the Victims of Communism (VOC) Memorial Foundation's annual Triumph of Liberty Gala Dinner and presentation of the Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom, held at Union Station in Washington, D.C. on November 8, 2019.

The Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom is awarded each year to those individuals and institutions that have demonstrated a life-long commitment to freedom and democracy and opposition to communism and all other forms of tyranny. The 2019 Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom recipient is His Excellency Joachim Gauck, former president of the Federal Republic of Germany (2012-2017).



The annual VOC Triumph of Liberty Gala Dinner and presentation of the Truman-Reagan Medal of Freedom, held at Union Station in Washington, D.C.

As a Lutheran pastor behind the Iron Curtain, Joachim Gauck led weekly prayers for peace that helped initiate popular resistance to the communist regime and eventually gave rise to the protest demonstrations in 1989. A co-founder of the New Forum opposition movement, Gauck was elected to the first free East German parliament in 1990 and oversaw the dissolution of the Ministry of State Security. From 2012 to 2017, he served as the 11th president of the Federal Republic of Germany.



Joachim Gauck

Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

On the morning of November 9, 1989, it was unthinkable that the Berlin Wall would fall that evening. For nearly three decades, the wall had stood as a symbol of a Europe divided between communist totalitarianism and free nations. Yet the resilience of the peoples of the Captive Nations, and the courage of dissidents in the face of tyranny, relentlessly chipped away at the Iron Curtain and brought about its dramatic fall. Free people everywhere celebrated the inextinguishable desire for liberty that brought about the collapse of communism in Europe and the historic reunification of Germany.

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOC), a non-profit educational and human rights organization in the United States. The VOC was authorized by a unanimous Act of Congress in 1993 to educate Americans about the ideology, history and legacy of communism. The VOC was responsible for building the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, DC, and is a member of the Platform of European Memory and Conscience.

Ambassador Aldona Wos is currently the Vice Chairman of the VOC Board of Trustees.