

Rear Admiral Marsha “Marty” Evans United States Navy, Retired



As one of America's most respected leaders, RDML Marty Evans' exceptional career has combined both military service and stewardship of the nation's preeminent non-profit organizations. During her nearly 30 years with the Navy, RDML Evans distinguished herself as one of only a handful of women to reach the rank of rear admiral and gained a reputation for forging new ground for women in the military; she was the first woman to command a U.S. naval station as well as chair the task force formed to address the gender-based issues that gave rise to the infamous Tailhook scandal. RDML Evans was the highest ranking woman in the Navy; she retired in 1998.

RDML Evans next assumed leadership of Girl Scouts of the USA, where she revolutionized the 90-year old organization and modernized its vision and programs for its nearly three million young members, increasing its diversity and growing its volunteer base to historic highs. In 2002, RDML Evans was selected as the 13th President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross, skillfully steering the organization through some of the most tumultuous and destructive events in history including Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma as well as the deadly Southeast Asian tsunami in 2004. For her leadership of the Red Cross response, she was named "Executive of the Year" for 2005 by Non Profit Times.

From July 2009 until January 2010, RDML Evans was the Acting Commissioner of the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

Today RDML Evans speaks to business and community audiences on leadership and diversity issues. She is a director of Office Depot, Weight Watchers International, the North Highland Company and Huntsman Corporation. She is also a director of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation.