There are historical moments that are frozen in American psyche. Events so shocking that we remember exactly the time, where we were, what we were doing and forever etched in our hearts:

Dec 07, 1941- Pearl Harbor Attack, President Roosevelt's "Day in Infamy"
May 08, 1945- End of WW2
Nov 22, 1963- President Kennedy was assassinated
Apr 04, 1968- Dr. Martin Luther King was shot

18 years ago on Sept 11, 2001, is another "Day in Infamy", … a day when flames and smoke ROSE over the blue skies of New York City, Washington DC and over a field in Pennsylvania. Americans watched in horror the loss of live, we were shocked, and scared to our core.

From despair, we witness acts of bravery from our First Responders. The America that woke up on Sept 11 is not the same country as the day before. Smoke and flames were not the only thing that rose that day.

What also rose was the character of our nation. Our nation's First Responders led the way. The quality of our country rose that day. We rose to meet the tragedy of that day and in doing so demonstrated, not only to ourselves, but to the entire world, American resolve, solidarity and "Tomorrow Never Dies".

Tonight we pause to remember those who are NOT here, …. to acknowledge their sacrifices. Tonight we count our blessings that WE are still living and able to recognize four (4) former veterans who transitioned to Public Service and inspired America with their valor, courage and selfless acts on 9/11.

Our Keynote Speaker, Michael Morell, Acting and Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency shared insider memoirs of that "Day in Infamy". His thought provoking "4 Stories" span 9/11/2001, service to two U.S. Presidents and closure. Director Morell is the author of "The Great War of Our Time", available on Amazon. Twitter handle is @MichaelJMorell.

On behalf of 007 Board, we thank you for attending and supporting 9th Annual 007 Black Tie and encourage you to our next Black Tie on April 11, 2020.

Opening Remarks by Thu Stubbs, Founder 007 Benefit, USAR.