

Debbie Hughes
Woman of Achievement 2019

Awarded by FamilyTime Crisis and Counseling Center



Creating memorable opportunities for those who need it most is what makes Debbie Hughes special.

As a current business analyst for an insurance group, Debbie works closely with veterans and individuals with disabilities.

Seeing some of their hardships, she decided to create an outlet for them to enjoy life.

Debbie is the co-founder of the Sailing Angels Foundation, a nonprofit organization that offers free therapeutic and recreational sailing excursions to veterans and individuals with disabilities.

Debbie with Judy Cox of FamilyTime and Eric Barata (ABC 13)





Debbie's Family

During her twelve years of participating in these charitable works, Debbie has introduced thousands of families to hydrotherapy, learned to become a skilled sailor, and trains volunteers on how to crew on a sailboat.

Outside of creating opportunities for her passengers, Debbie's fundraising and marketing efforts are responsible for growing the organization from just one boat and a handful of volunteers to more than 40 ships and with more than 100 crew volunteers.

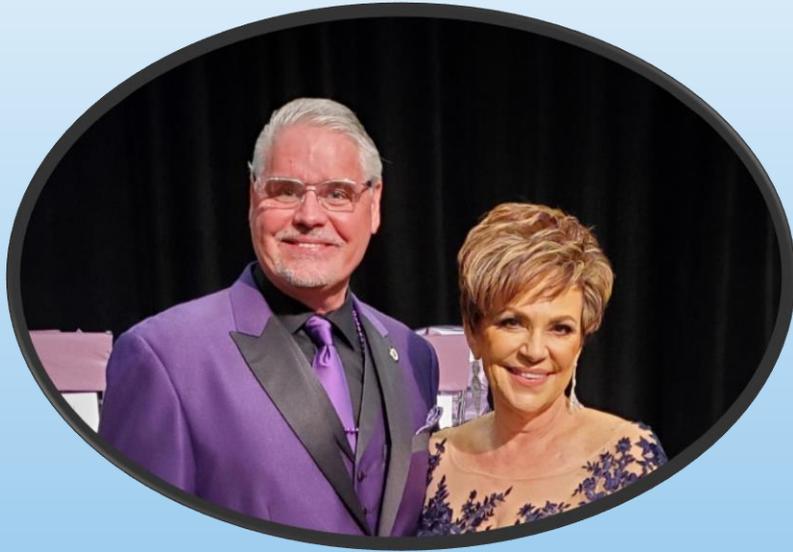


As she averages more than 300 volunteer hours each year, Debbie not only sails the boat with skill, but she can be found interacting with her passengers.

Her infectious smile and kind demeanor help to calm those who are apprehensive about going on the water for the first time.

Debbie's compassionate spirit leads many wounded warriors to share their stories and offers encouraging hugs to children.

With U S Congressman Dan Crenshaw



With Texas State Representative Dan Huberty

It is only befitting that many leaders, including

- former President Barrack Obama
- U.S. Representative Ted Poe
- U.S. Representative Dan Crenshaw
- Governor Greg Abbott
- Texas House Representative Dan Huberty
- Houston City Council Member Dave Martin
- former Mayor Anise Parker
- and the Veterans Administration
- have honored and recognized her efforts.

Her daughter, Heather, defines supreme as “Debbie Hughes, the business executive, leader, volunteer, mother, and friend. She is of the highest kind, quality, and order.”

Debbie appreciates the love and full support of her husband Bob, as well as her daughters and son-in-law.



Sailing Angels, Board of Directors