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Bush's single White House term shaped U.S. history for decades



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Former President George H.W. Bush remembered for role in Cold War, Iraq



FILE PHOTO: Bush family portrait in Houston, Texas August 19, 1992. Back row: Walker Bush (Marvin's son), Marvin Bush, Margaret Bush (Marvin's wife), George W. Bush, Sharon Bush (Neil's wife), Neil Bush, Doro Bush Koch, Bobby Koch (Doro's Husband), Jeb Bush, George P. Bush (Jeb's son), and Noelle Bush (Jeb's daughter). Second Row: Laura Bush (George W.'s wife), Jenna Bush (George W.'s daughter), Pierce Bush (Neil's son), Barbara Bush, Goerge Bush, Sam Le BLond (Donro's son), and Columba Bush (Jeb's wife). Floor: Barbara Bush (George W.'s daughter), Marshall Bush (Marvin's daughter), Ashley and Lauren Bush (Neil's daughters), Ellie LeBlond (Doro's daughter), and Jebby Bush(Jeb's son). REUTERS/File Photo

HOUSTON/WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Tributes to former U.S. President George H.W. Bush, who died at the age of 94, poured in from around the world on Saturday as global leaders honored him for his role in helping to end the Cold War and reduce the threat of nuclear annihilation.

Bush, the 41st U.S. president who served in the office from 1989 to 1993, also routed President Saddam Hussein's Iraqi army in the 1991 Gulf War but lost his chance for a second term in the White House after breaking a no-new-taxes pledge.

"Many of my memories are linked to him," said Mikhail Gorbachev, the last leader of the Soviet Union, with whom Bush signed a strategic arms reduction treaty that scaled back the two countries' nuclear arsenals.

"We happened to work together in years of great changes. It was a dramatic time demanding huge responsibility from everyone," Russia's Interfax news agency quoted Gorbachev as saying.

Gorbachev hails late George H.W. Bush's role in ending Cold War

Bush, who also served for eight years as U.S. vice president during Ronald Reagan's two-term presidency and earlier as head of the CIA, died on Friday night at his home in Houston. His death was announced by his longtime spokesman Jim McGrath.

Speaking in Buenos Aires, U.S. President Donald Trump called Bush "a high-quality man."

"He was a very fine man. I met him on numerous occasions. He was just a high-quality man who truly loved his family," Trump told reporters at a G20 summit in Buenos Aires. "He was a terrific guy and he'll be missed. He led a full life, and a very exemplary life, too."

The White House said a state funeral is being arranged at the National Cathedral in Washington. Bush's body will arrive at the U.S. Capitol on Monday and will lie in state through Wednesday morning, with a ceremony set for 5 p.m. on Monday. The public will be able to line up to view Bush's casket continuously from Monday at 7:30 p.m. ET until Wednesday at 7 a.m. ET.

The president, who plans to attend the funeral with first lady Melania Trump, also designated Wednesday as a national day of mourning, and ordered the lowering of the American flag for 30 days.

Trump on Saturday signed an order closing the federal government on Wednesday as a mark of respect for Bush. The New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq will also be closed on Wednesday in his honor.

Former U.S. presidents lauded Bush. "His administration was marked by grace, civility and social conscience," Jimmy Carter, a Bush predecessor and now the oldest living former president at 94, said in a statement.

Barack Obama described Bush as "a patriot and humble servant" while Bill Clinton, who defeated Bush in the 1992 presidential election, recalled his "great long life of service, love and friendship."

Bush, a U.S. naval aviator during World War Two, was the father of former President George W. Bush, who served two terms in the White House in the 2000s, and former Florida Governor Jeb Bush, who unsuccessfully sought the 2016 Republican nomination for president. Like his sons, he was a Republican.

His death came seven months after that of his wife, former first lady Barbara Bush, to whom he was married for 73 years. He was admitted to a Houston hospital with a blood infection that led to sepsis a day after her funeral in April.

"The entire Bush family is deeply grateful for 41's life and love, for the compassion of those who have cared and prayed for Dad, and for the condolences of our friends and fellow citizens," George W. Bush said in a statement.

At a gate outside the Houston neighborhood where the Bushes lived, residents on Saturday created a makeshift memorial by laying flowers before a U.S. flag.

"They weren't just the president and former first lady, they were part of the neighborhood," said Ellen Prella, who added

a poinsettia and remembered the former first couple as involved and caring.

At the G20 summit in Buenos Aires, German Chancellor Angela Merkel recalled visiting him in the White House. "He was the father or one of the fathers of German reunification and we will never forget that," she said.

Bush served as president during the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

"His ethos of public service was the guiding thread of his life and an example to us all," said British Prime Minister Theresa May. "In navigating a peaceful end to the Cold War, he made the world a safer place for generations to come."

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Bush "faithfully served his country all his life - with a gun in his hand during the war years and in high government roles in peacetime," according to Russian state news agency TASS.

EXTENSIVE POLITICAL RESUME

George Herbert Walker Bush, a Connecticut Yankee who came to Texas to be an oilman, died as the patriarch of a Republican political dynasty. He and George W. Bush were only the second father and son to hold the office of president, after John Adams (1797-1801) and John Quincy Adams (1825-1829).

His second son, Jeb, undertook his own campaign for the presidency in 2015 before dropping out. Bush's father, Prescott Bush, was a U.S. senator from Connecticut.

Bush had first sought the presidency in 1980, campaigning on experience gathered as a U.S. congressman from Texas, envoy to China, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, United Nations ambassador and chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Reagan, the former actor and California governor, vanquished Bush in the Republican primaries but chose him as his running mate, hoping Bush's reputation as a moderate would balance his own hard, conservative image.

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Bush's single White House term shaped U.S. history for decades

WASHINGTON - He was president for only four years, but George H.W. Bush shaped U.S. history for decades, taking on tough jobs from Beijing to the CIA, ousting Iraqi forces from Kuwait, sealing a breakthrough budget deal that cost him an election and fathering a future president.

He died on Friday at the age of 94, his family said. His passing came seven months after the April 17, 2018, death of his wife, Barbara, to whom he was married for 73 years.

His presidency, which ran from 1989 to 1993, was defined by two events - his aggressive response to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and the soon-to-be-broken "read my lips" pledge he made not to raise taxes while running for president in 1988.

At a time when the Cold War was ending and the influence of Soviet-style communism was withering, Bush's military and diplomatic actions firmly cast the United States as the world's leading superpower.

After Bush emphatically said Saddam's aggression "will not stand," U.S.-led forces routed Iraq's army in the Gulf War, driving it from Kuwait while stopping short of taking Baghdad, Iraq's capital. Bush's popularity rating among Americans soared to about 90 percent.

Twenty months later, in 1992, the Republican Bush lost his bid for re-election to Democrat Bill Clinton, whose folksy manner and focus on the economy struck a chord with many Americans and made Bush seem disconnected from voters for focusing on foreign policy over domestic issues. Despite a broad coalition that included several Arab states, U.S. involvement in the Gulf War was seen as a violation of Arab sovereignty by some in the Middle East, and led a few militant groups - namely Osama bin Laden's recently formed al Qaeda - to turn their focus toward fighting U.S. influence. A decade later, the presidency of Bush's son, George W. Bush, would be jolted by al Qaeda's deadly hijacking attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

The Bushes were only the second father and son to serve as U.S. presidents - the first being John Adams (1797-1801) and John Quincy Adams (1825-1829). The Bush political dynasty also included Bush's father, who was a U.S. senator,



FILE PHOTO: U.S. President George W. Bush (front L) and first lady Laura Bush look on as the casket of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan arrives for his state funeral at the National Cathedral in Washington

and son Jeb, a former governor of Florida who mounted his own run for the presidency in 2015 but dropped out in February 2016 after gaining little traction.

Bush did not endorse Republican Donald Trump, the eventual winner in the 2016 presidential election, who attacked both Jeb and George W. Bush during his campaign. The elder Bush did not publicly say whom he voted for in the election, but a source told CNN he went for the Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton.

'NO NEW TAXES'

George Herbert Walker Bush was a moderate Republican known for his diplomacy and ability to compromise with Democrats. He was a symbol of a relatively collegial period in Washington that nevertheless set the stage for the divisive, partisan gridlock that now plagues the U.S. capital.

When he accepted the Republican nomination for president in 1988, Bush, then Ronald Reagan's vice president, was trying to win over conservatives who had more enthusiasm for Reagan. He answered questions about his conservatism with an emphatic pledge.

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Editor's Choice



FILE PHOTO: U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo speaks to the media about the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi on Capitol Hill in Washington



Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador takes office as Mexican president



Soccer Football - La Liga Santander - Real Madrid v Valencia - Santiago Bernabeu, Madrid, Spain - December 1, 2018 Real Madrid fans inside the stadium REUTERS/Sergio Perez



Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador takes office as Mexican president



Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador takes office as Mexican president



Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador takes office as Mexican president



A woman takes a selfie with Shirlyne Wangari and Rebecca Zawadi before the Mr & Miss Albinism Kenya Beauty Pageant 2018 in Nairobi



Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador takes office as Mexican president

Rice University has unveiled a new initiative to make higher education more affordable by dramatically expanding financial aid provided to students from low-income families to those with incomes up to \$200,000.

Full tuition scholarships and grants will be offered to students from middle-income families under a new financial aid plan titled The Rice Investment. Under The Rice Investment program, full tuition scholarships will be awarded to degree-seeking undergraduates with family incomes between \$65,000 and \$130,000 who are eligible to receive need-based financial aid. In addition, students with family incomes between \$130,000 and \$200,000 will receive scholarships covering at least half of their tuition. Support for students from low-income families will also be significantly enhanced under the program, and students with family incomes below \$65,000 will receive grant aid covering not only their full tuition, but also all of their mandatory fees and room and board. "Talent deserves opportunity," Rice President David Leebron said. "We've built on our already generous financial aid to provide more support to lower-income and middle-class families and ensure that these students have access to the best in private higher education."

The Rice Investment will also reduce the



burden of student debt. Beginning in the next academic year, degree-seeking undergraduate students from families with incomes up to \$200,000 who qualify for The Rice Investment will no longer be required to take out loans as part of their need-based financial aid packages. Instead, loans will be replaced by scholarships and grants. Students will still be expected to contribute toward the cost of attendance through moderate earnings from summer and academic year jobs.

The Rice University Board of Trustees has enthusiastically endorsed the initiative, which will substantially enhance the university's already robust financial aid.

Undergraduate Students From Families With Incomes Under \$130,000 Will Pay No Tuition

Rice University Announces New Program To Dramatically Expand Scholarships For Middle Class

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



"The Rice Investment will give more students from middle-income families an extraordinary opportunity at an extraordinary university," said Bobby Tudor, the chairman of the university's board.



The plan, which takes effect in fall 2019, will impact all degree-seeking undergraduates – including continuing students –

who are eligible for aid based on need. Some families may qualify for even more aid depending on their circumstances. Families with atypically large assets or certain unusual circumstances may not qualify for this need-based aid. This initiative is intended to address challenges faced by families with moderate incomes. The average price of attending a private research university was just under \$60,000 before financial aid, according to College Board data. The median income in the U.S. for families headed by parents of a typical age with college-age students was \$90,120, according to 2016 U.S. Census data. "This bold step reflects our founding principles," Leebron said. "When Rice opened

its doors in 1912, we didn't charge tuition. Rice changed its charter in 1965 to begin charging tuition, but immediately began offering scholarships to eligible students. This significantly builds on that legacy and on our commitment to make a Rice education accessible and affordable for students from all backgrounds.



"We have had a spectacular year in every sense, including strong endowment returns, a record-setting number of applications and a higher yield among those we did admit. As a result of our strategic planning last year, we set a priority on assuring greater access and affordability for both lower-income and middle-class families. We believe this is the right time to take a bold step in fulfillment of that vision."

Rice is frequently ranked as one of the nation's best values among private schools because of its generous aid policies and because its annual tuition, currently at \$46,600, tends to be thousands of dollars lower than peer research universities. It is one of a select number of private higher education institutions that admits students from across the United States based on academic merit without considering their financial resources. Once students are admitted, they are awarded financial aid packages that meet their needs.



"The Rice Investment is just that – an investment in the limitless promise of all students who demonstrate talent, initiative and drive regardless of their background or their ability to pay for college," Leebron said. "We are determined to continue to reflect our roots and make our education affordable for all admitted students, whatever their financial background."

Rice alumni have long expressed interest in keeping their alma mater affordable for low- and middle-income students, Leebron said, and they will play an integral part in The Rice Investment. The university is undertaking a \$150 million fundraising campaign to support the program. Expanding access and diversity in the student body is one of the goals of Rice's strategic plan, the Vision for the Second Century, Second Decade (V2C2). Rice is also one of the 30 founding members of the American Talent Initiative, an organization devoted to broadening access to higher education among talented students from lower-income families.

For more information on Rice, visit www.rice.edu. For more information on The Rice Investment, see <http://rice.edu/thericeinvestment>.

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SPECIAL
REPORT

Homeless In US: A Deepening
Crisis On The Streets Of America

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



They seem to be almost everywhere, in places old and new, no age spared. Sleeping on cardboard or bare ground, the homeless come together under bridges and trees, their belongings in plastic bags symbolising lives on the move. Many have arrived on the streets just recently, victims of the same prosperity that has transformed cities across the US West Coast. As officials struggle to respond to this growing crisis, some say things are likely to get worse. Vibrant Portland, Oregon's largest city, has long lured many. It is the City of Roses, of pleasant climate, rich culture and progressive thinking. It is also an innovation hub, part of what is called Silicon Forest, and new residents have moved here in these post-recession years attracted by its high-tech companies and their well-paid jobs. But the bonanza, unsurprisingly, has not come to everyone. Booming demand in an area with limited housing offers quickly drove the cost of living up, and those who were financially on the limit lost the ability they once had to afford a place.



Many were rescued by family and friends, or government programmes and non-profit groups. Others, however, ended up homeless. The lucky ones have found space in public shelters. Not a few are now in tents and vehicles on the streets. "Even though the economy has never been stronger," Mayor Ted Wheeler, a Democrat, said, "inequality [is] growing at an alarming rate and the benefits from

a [growing] economy are increasingly concentrated in fewer and fewer hands... We have increasing disparity all across the United States, and that's definitely impacting people." His city is indeed not alone. Homelessness has increased in other thriving West Coast cities that are destinations for young, well-educated workers, like San Francisco and Seattle, where the blame has also largely fallen on rapidly rising costs and evictions. Exact numbers are always hard to come by but 553,742 people were homeless on a single night across the US in 2017, the Department of Housing and Urban Development said, the first rise in seven years. (The figure, however, was still 13% lower than in 2010.) Declines in 30 states were overshadowed by big surges elsewhere, with California, Oregon and Washington among the worst. Los Angeles, where the situation has been described as unprecedent-

ed, had more than 50,000 people without homes, behind only New York City, which had some 75,000. Prosperity across US regions Per capita income relative to national average 1929-2017

Source: The Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institute

Joseph Gordon, known as Tequila, has lived in a homeless camp called Hazel-nut Grove since its creation in 2015, when Portland first declared a state of emergency over the crisis. "It's very scary. [The] people I have come across," said the 37-year-old, "are from every single walk of life. And the homeless population is getting bigger and bigger." Multnomah County reported 4,177 people homeless on a single night last year, a 10% rise from 2015 - many believed the number was even higher. Exposing

tensions, the president of Portland Police Association controversially said in July the city had become "a cesspool", a comment the mayor dismissed as "ridiculous". Tequila arrived from Cincinnati, Ohio, in 2011 and said they (Tequila is a transgender man and asks to be referred by this pronoun) became homeless after losing the apartment they shared with a former violent partner. "Being out on the street you deal with all sorts of things [like] having to relax with living with rats. You also start to appreciate running water or when you can go to the bathroom anytime you want," said Tequila. (People usually thought they were Mexican because of the colour of their skin, and the nickname was in reference to Jose Cuervo, the tequila brand.)

The self-governed community of small wooden structures next to a highway had more than a dozen residents, half of them with some sort of income, Tequila said. "If there was access to actual affordable housing they would take it." In Portland, the rent of a one-bed flat is, on average, \$1,136 (£867), which is out of reach for those who rely on Social Se-

curity checks, topped at \$735 locally, or earn the minimum wage, \$12 per hour. (Officials said half of the 1,300 units to be created would be reserved to those with extremely low income.) Elderly people and minorities have been disproportionately affected, according to a study by Portland State University, which said technology could result in thousands of low-paid jobs being cut, probably making things even worse. "We have a housing market that's really unaffordable for folks at the lowest income level," said Shannon Singleton, Executive Director of Join, a charity that helps homeless people return to permanent housing. "There's a real lack of hope. Folks are struggling to see the ability to end their homelessness and get back in the [market]." While some defend Tequila's camp as a model for an alternative solution, authorities have said it will, eventually, have to go. No date has been set yet but there have been troubles with nearby neighbours recently.



Homelessness, in Portland and beyond, seems to be more visible than ever. Residents are growing frustrated with the smell of urine, human feces and abandoned objects littering public spaces and, sometimes, their own doorsteps. In certain places, there is the feeling that this is a fight being lost. But this is a crisis long in the making. Cuts by the federal government to affordable housing programs and mental health facilities in the last few decades helped send many to the streets nationwide, officials and service providers said, as local authorities were unable to fill the gaps. The current affordability problem is now adding to it. (Courtesy bbc.com)

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