

Pat Hughes Bio
Evening Sun 11/08/1979

Father=Dorsey Donoho, school principal
Grew up in Denton, Md on Eastern Shore
Graduated from Bryn Mawr in French Literature and Language
Married in 1951 after graduation

Children:

Ann, MA in Learning Disabilities from JHU, teacher

Elizabeth, Harvard, UMD Law School

Volunteer

Helped on husband's campaigns

Taught in public and private schools, also at Wye Community College

Says "things that mean something to us...These are the things we'll take with us to Government House."

"Mrs. Hughes has been to the Governor's Mansion many times, and she says she thinks 'it is rather imposing.'"

"I found when we traveled around the state campaigning that people seem to take pride in it and that they feel it is kind of on loan as a gift from them--- which of course it is."

Photo

Evening Sun 11/08/1978

Photo

The Sun 05/29/1979

How did Mr. and Mrs. Hughes meet

They don't remember

Just knew each other from around town, Denton

Their mothers knew each other and they became friends

Mother=teacher

Hughes lived in Alexandria, VA after marriage

She worked at National Security Agency

Also, was an elementary school teacher until first daughter born

Stand on issues:

"I've made it very clear that I'm going to pick the issues, and battered spouses and sex stereotyping and Title IX are some of them."

1966 got MA degree

Cut GH staff from 11 to 9

Sponsored Legislative Dinner Dances instead of traditional breakfasts

Evening Sun 01/17/1979
Hughes Family photo

Hughes Renovations
MHS Subject File "Historic Houses-Government House"

The Sun 03/14/1979

Evening Sun 12/24/1979

The Sun 12/26/1979

Opening of the Empire Parlour

The Washington Post 01/27/1980

"What a melange to say the least. There were beautiful things in every room. But there was no coherence. All the governors and their wives over the years had made changes in the house so there was no continuity of design. It goes back to 1935 when the entire house was bastardized."

"I laid down the rule that everything had to be usable. The house couldn't be turned into a museum. We have too many things going on here for that."

"The painted pier table (1825) is a good example of the early 19th century decoration. Governor Elihu Jackson used the table at his Salisbury home."

The Sun 02/16/1983

Plan for 7 room restoration by Mrs. Hughes

The Sun 02/17/1983

Opening of the Victorian Parlour

Goal="to make the mansion a 'showcase for Maryland culture and history'"

"We don't want people to get the idea that this is a museum."

"The mansion as it stands is 'everybody's house,' she says, and should be treated such in the large-scale 'reinstalling' project."

"a surviving Baltimore plaster ceiling taken from the old Buckler mansion at Charles and Center Streets, now being remodeled as a condominium, was installed in the room

Mrs. Hughes says GH somehow "has great flexibility as a center for Marylanders and adapts itself to almost any group, whether it is a reception for 40 people or dinner for 80"

Washington Post Washington Home 08/29/1985

GH, Recounting History Room by Room

Patricia Donoho Hughes

Washington Post June 5, 1983:

- foot tall metal file box w/ letters and phone calls of invitations, only Mrs. Hughes and Governor decide which he will attend - no aides or advisors involved
- husband calls her an “unofficial advisor”
- seen as one of the causes of fall-out with Lt. Gov. Samuel Bogley: his wife Rita is pro-life, Pat is pro-choice
- Baltimore mayor calls her “icy”
- State House denizens call her “paranoid”
- staffers call her imperious, inflexible, and humorless
- legislators describe her as “snooty” and speak of her “regal” attitude
- former teacher
- 53 year old Bryn Mawr graduate (born 1930?)
- grew up on the Eastern Shore
- after first year in office, Hughes reshuffled staff, removed chief of staff, etc. Hughes said “the changes weren’t originated by her, but she pushed it.”
- 1982 reelection campaign- she was a key strategy meeting member
- she sits in on most press conferences and follows up with analyses of questions and the governor’s responses
- she has her own staff member, who attends all meetings of senior staff
- PH “We make decisions together and it’s not a question to anyone else.”
- instituted guest lists and formal invitations, receiving lines, mandatory black tie receptions

Baltimore Sun June 21, 1981:

- speaks English, Spanish, and French, and attends many functions both and

without him

-interest in state arts council, Annapolis and Baltimore cultural institutions, on the board of Center Stage

-reporters in Annapolis described her as tough and pushy

-budget problem, no money for raises for state employees- PH describes her suggestion to have a reception at Government House for labor leaders to informally discuss the problem

-PH: "This house belongs to the people of Maryland and it should be something everyone can be proud of. It doesn't belong to the governor who happens to be in it."

-PH: "All the pieces in the public rooms are usable. This is not a museum. The idea is to lift the level of public functions."

-In 1980, PH hosted 39 dinners, luncheons, breakfasts, and receptions in Government House

-state dinners seat 72- she requested \$13,000 of government money to complete the set, withdrew the request, and received private donations to complete it anyway

-two children- Ann 27, Elizabeth 25

-Hughes house in Cross Keys

-at some larger dinners, the Peabody Conservatory supplies music

-April 14, GH hosted Easter egg hunt for the MD School for the Blind- eggs with beepers in them

-she attended the Hispanic Women's Conference, where she gave a speech in Spanish, and at a GH reception greeted the French sister-state delegation in French

-graduate of Bryn Mawr in 1951, studied at the Sorbonne in 1949

-MA in French language and literature from U.Delaware, 1966-9

-works with the Maryland Commission for Women

-in the past year- emphasis on giving greater visibility to battered spouse programs - since October had been in 9 counties promoting local programs

-PH: "I have visited programs for displaced homemakers, alternative schools for children who have been on drugs, and counseling centers for young girls on drugs who have turned to prostitution. The centers are mostly in the Washington area.

"I'm trying to give more visibility to programs that need help, such as alternative schools and drug abuse, and I'm encouraging volunteer work in those fields. It needs to be promoted because there are fewer volunteers. That's one reason we had the first preview open house for volunteers for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. These people have given their time and energy to the state and they should be recognized."

-reception for volunteers in the arts (organized by the Maryland State Arts Council), member of board of Center Stage, involved with Annapolis Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, BMA, and Walters Art Gallery

-at first board meeting for Center Stage, introduced herself as a housewife

-reply to incident: "I am a glorified housewife, but I'm liberated, also. I've been through the routine of raising children and I enjoy helping to improve Government House, but I'd be bored if that was all I could do. I'm tuned in to politics and I feel that I'm doing useful work for the Commission for Women."

-arrangement of sister-state relationship between Maryland and Anhui, China - they entertained a delegation from Anhui four times at GH, including a private dinner for the head delegate and a formal state dinner for the entire delegation, then they visited China later - when the head delegate came to power, he accepted the sister state relationship

-quote from anon. person during gubernatorial race: "If by tough you mean

being intelligent and strong-willed, she certainly is. Pat Hughes is very smart and very well educated. She has a lot of ideas and energy, and she's well organized. She's the equivalent of a member of the governor's staff who is doing a splendid job. What Pat is doing is bringing class to Government House."

Baltimore Sun May 29, 1979:

-they don't remember how they met- Gov: "You know when you live in a small town you just always see each other. I think our mothers knew each other."

-he attended her dances at Bryn Mawr when he was living in D.C.

-married 28 years- 1951

-grew up in Denton, MD

-Mr. Donoho was a principal, Mrs. Donoho was a teacher

-Pat worked at the NSA, then taught elementary school, and then had children

-PH: "I guess I came from a different generation. It never occurred to me that you had a choice."

-PH: "Women going back into the work force at different ages is a new phenomenon. I think it's great- marvelous if you can work it out."

-went back to teaching in 1971

-donated a personally guided tour of GH for an auction which benefited the House of Ruth

-PH: "I've made it very clear that I'm going to pick the issues, and battered spouses and sex stereotyping and Title IX are some of them. Young girls should be aware that they have choices."

-worked as a French teacher in day schools and community colleges and returned in 1966 for her M.A.

-PH: "I gave a lecture the other day, and I told the audience I have two daughters: one is 25 and the other is 22 and neither of them are married. Isn't that marvelous?"

-favorite pastime is lying on the beach (Rehoboth and Ocean City)

-Beth played in USGA junior tournaments

-she cut the GH staff from 11 to 9