

HERITAGE TODAY



# TRUST

The newspapers called us fly girls, like it was cute. It was okay. They called the men flyboys. But the message was pretty clear: There were people out there that didn't believe we could do it. We had to prove ourselves. Here's the thing of it, though. We all have to prove ourselves. When your country takes a leap of faith, you have to take that same leap. They've placed their trust in you. In the Air Force, nobody will ever give you a job they wonder if you can do. They give you jobs they expect you to do. For most people, trust is something you build up to. For an Airman, trust is where you start. Trust in your ability. Trust in your commitment. Trust in your loyalty. To have someone's back and know that they have yours. To be someone's wingman. You look into the eyes of someone staring back at you, just as scared as you are, you don't see fear. You see a bond. There will never be a moment when you are more connected to another human being than the moment you realize your lives are in each other's hands. Whether you ever see combat or not, you'll see that bond. You will rise to the faith that others have in you. Faith is a home for courage. Belief gives us strength. Trust carries us forward. We weren't just those first women to fly. We were the women after. And the women after that. We were every man and every woman that America ever believed in and our enemies ever fought and we were living proof that it is a sad, sad mistake indeed to ever underestimate an Airman. This is our Air Force. You're part of it now. We're trusting you with our country. We trust you with our constitution, we trust you with our flag and we trust you with our lives. No one questions your courage. They count on it. No one doubts your commitment. They depend on it. No one is challenging you to prove them wrong. We're trusting you to prove us right. Aim high, Airman.