

ADVANCE INFORMATION

TRUE COLOURS

The Story of the First Openly Transgender Soldier in the British Armed Forces

Caroline Paige

In 1999, Caroline Paige became the first officer to transition gender within the military, and to remain in service. She rose against the extraordinary challenges placed before her to become a highly respected aviator and to be the first openly-serving transgender woman on the front-line in the war on terror, flying battlefield helicopters for sixteen years and serving in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Paige describes a personal conflict influenced by prejudice and acceptance, in a military that initially persecutes its LGBT personnel before ultimately celebrating them. It is a journey set in a world of change, a story of secrecy and vulnerability, of fear and courage, of challenge and hope.

This is a unique and inspirational memoir that reveals the triumphs and tribulations that shaped Paige's life, from her birth and childhood struggles with gender identity through to her 35-year military career.

- A memoir that will overturn many people's preconceptions and prejudices about the place of transgender people in the military.
- The author has produced a book that will help capture an important part of lived military LGBT history.
- Extensive print and broadcast media interest expected, serialisation anticipated.
- The author will be available for interview.

Caroline Paige served in the Royal Air Force for thirty-five years, retiring, after a distinguished career, in 2014. She has subsequently devoted her time to writing this memoir. Paige is a frequent speaker at public and business events, and at schools, where she has seen first-hand how her story inspires and positively enlightens people.

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