

J.D. HAYWORTH BIOGRAPHY

John David “J.D.” Hayworth entered this world at the height of the “Baby Boom”: July 12, 1958 in High Point, North Carolina, known as the “Furniture Capital of the World.”

Raised in a Christian home, some of J.D.’s earliest memories center around the fellowship at Emerywood Baptist Church. As he grew, he realized that fellowship activities—including the church-sponsored Scout Troop, where he rose to rank of Eagle—helped build his faith. J.D. gave his life to Christ and was baptized at age 12.

At age 17, he was called to preach on “Youth Sunday” at Emerywood; an experience which he now says was the most humbling and awe-inspiring of his life. Though events would subsequently place him at the podium of his party’s national convention; in the well of the United States House of Representatives; and at the “dispatch box” between the benches at the Oxford Union (the world’s oldest debating society), J.D. maintains that there is no more challenging and life-changing place to speak than from the pulpit.

J.D. began his broadcasting career in High Point when he was 14. He continued his radio work after accepting a football scholarship to N.C. State, then moved into television his senior year, after health problems ended his football days. He graduated with honors from N.C. State with a double major in Speech-Communication and Political Science, getting practical experience in that latter academic concentration by serving as Student Body President.

Work as a television sportscaster took J.D. from Raleigh to Greenville/Spartanburg to Cincinnati, and finally in 1987, to Phoenix. He recommitted his life to Christ at North Phoenix Baptist Church, where shortly thereafter he met Mary Yancey. J.D. and Mary married in 1989, and have three children: Nicole, Hannah, and John Micah.

One month after John Micah’s birth, J.D. & Mary stepped out in faith to campaign for a seat in Congress. One year later, J.D. was taking the oath of office to represent Arizona’s 6th District, in what was the first Republican House Majority in 40 years—and the first of J.D.’s lifetime—since he was elected at age 36. His fellow newcomers selected him to become part of the House GOP Leadership during his first term. He subsequently became the first Arizonan in history to serve on the powerful Ways & Means Committee; and the “go-to guy” in the House Republican Conference when it came to formulating communication themes and serving as a party spokesman.

His time in Congress came to an end with the 2006 election, and J.D. returned to broadcasting as a Talk Radio Host in Phoenix. Following an unsuccessful run for the U.S. Senate in 2010, he has continued his broadcast work in both radio and television. J.D. and Mary now belong to Illuminate Community Church in Scottsdale, and he enjoys being part of Pinnacle Forum.