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Blue Bloods Star Tom Selleck Talks Finding Fame After 35 and Balancing a Life that Includes Family, Acting and Ranching in the October/November Issue of AARP The Magazine

Read Tom Selleck's story and access an exclusive video interview in which he talks about his meandering path to success in Hollywood as the star of *Magnum P.I.*, and explains why living away from the spotlight has helped give him staying power in show business

WASHINGTON, DC— Tom Selleck, star of the CBS hit series *Blue Bloods*, grew up in suburban Los Angeles, the son of a real estate broker. He had zero interest in acting when he landed a basketball scholarship at the University of Southern California. In an insightful interview with *AARP The Magazine*, Selleck reveals how he dabbled in TV commercials to help pay the rent and did guest appearances on *The Dating Game*. Years later, both gigs would lead to his first full-time acting job on the hit show *Magnum P.I.* In the cover interview, the Golden Globe and Emmy award-winning actor also talks about how he stays grounded and living with his wife Jillie Mack out of the spotlight on their working ranch in California.

The following are excerpts from the October/November issue of the *AARP The Magazine* cover story featuring Tom Selleck, available in homes today and online now at aarp.org/magazine.

On his staying power in the entertainment business:

"The luckiest thing that happened was that I didn't get a real [acting] job until I was 35. When I was 25 I looked 35, but sounded 15. There are a lot of very good actors who make it as younger leading men but don't graduate because the audience won't accept them as grown up."

On why he was drawn to his current role as Police Commissioner Frank Reagan on the hit CBS drama *Blue Bloods*:

"The best thing about the Reagans' family dinner was that it wasn't *The Waltons*. The characters argue and are at each other's throats."

On shaping his character on *Magnum P.I.*—a Vietnam veteran carving out a new career as a private investigator in Hawaii—and being honored by The Smithsonian Institution:

"I told them, I don't want to be [ex-con TV detective Jim] Rockford, but I want to do something like that where the guy is fallible. I don't want to get too emotional, but I am very proud of this. *Magnum* was recognized as the first show to portray a Vietnam veteran in a positive way."

On his early thoughts about an acting career:

"I never did school plays. I had no interest."

On his parents:

"I don't have any tragic stories of parental rejection. They taught me everything I know. They walked their talk."

On the pressure of living in the limelight:

"People who seek out fame? I don't get them. I don't know whether I can do this [promotional appearances] unless I find a way to do it on my terms."

On his role as a working rancher:

"I work this ranch every day. I do the grunt jobs because it saves me money. And it's good for my head. This ranch is a great counterpoint to the acting business. I'm waging war with the tumbleweeds."

On his enduring relationship with wife Jillie Mack:

"We're both independent. There's a lot of yin and yang in us. I'm kind of quiet. She's got this *joie de vivre*. I

don't know what our secret is, but we are happy."

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About AARP The Magazine

With more than 35.2 million readers, AARP The Magazine is the world's largest circulation magazine and the definitive lifestyle publication for Americans 50+. AARP The Magazine delivers comprehensive content through health and fitness features, financial guidance, consumer interest information and tips, celebrity interviews, and book and movie reviews. AARP The Magazine was founded in 1958 and is published bimonthly in print and continually online. Learn more at aarp.org/magazine.

About AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of nearly 38 million, that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse. We advocate for individuals in the marketplace by selecting products and services of high quality and value to carry the AARP name as well as help our members obtain discounts on a wide range of products, travel, and services. A trusted source for lifestyle tips, news and educational information, AARP produces AARP The Magazine, the world's largest circulation magazine; AARP Bulletin; www.aarp.org; AARP TV & Radio; AARP Books; and AARP en Español, a Spanish-language website addressing the interests and needs of Hispanics. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to political campaigns or candidates. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. AARP has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Learn more at www.aarp.org.

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For the complete interview, including an exclusive video and images, check out aarp.org/magazine

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