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STATEMENT OF SEN. DOLE ON THE DEATH OF SEN. JOHN EAST

I AM BOTH SHOCKED AND SADDENED TODAY BY THE SUDDEN DEATH OF SEN. JOHN EAST. SEN. EAST WAS A GREAT AMERICAN AND A FINE UNITED STATES SENATOR. HE WAS A COURAGEOUS MAN. A MAN WHO OVERCAME A CRIPPLING DISABILITY TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED AND DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

JOHN EAST LEAD BY EXAMPLE. COURAGE, TENACITY, HONESTY AND A DEDICATION TO PRINCIPLE WERE HIS HALLMARKS. HE NEVER FLINCHED FROM A FIGHT, AND MORE OFTEN THAN NOT HE WON HIS BATTLES AND EARNED THE RESPECT OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

SEN. EAST WON RESPECT NOT ONLY FROM HIS COLLEAGUES BUT FROM ALL AMERICANS, IN PARTICULAR THOSE WHO HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO OVERCOME THEIR OWN PHYSICAL DISABILITIES.

I KNOW THAT JOHN WOULD LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED AS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF OUR PRESIDENT. IN THE FIVE AND A HALF YEARS OF THE REAGAN PRESIDENCY, JOHN DISPLAYED UNFAILING SUPPORT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ITS POLICIES.

I OFFER MY CONDOLENCES TO THE EAST FAMILY. I GREW TO RESPECT AND ADMIRE JOHN DURING THE FIVE AND A HALF YEARS I WORKED WITH HIM. I'LL MISS HIM.