

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JOHNNY CARSON

DOLE SALUTES RETIRING "TONIGHT SHOW" HOST ON SENATE FLOOR

OVER THE YEARS, I HAVE BEEN ACCUSED MORE THAN ONCE OF BEING THE "JOHNNY CARSON" OF THE SENATE.

I DON'T KNOW IF THOSE WHO SAID THAT MEANT IT AS A COMPLIMENT--BUT I TOOK IT AS ONE--BECAUSE, LIKE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS, I'M A FAN OF JOHNNY CARSON.

PERHAPS IT'S THE FACT THAT WE'RE BOTH FROM THE MIDWEST.

PERHAPS IT'S THE FACT THAT HE NEVER COMPLAINED WHEN I STOLE HIS JOKES--AND I NEVER COMPLAINED WHEN HE STOLE MINE.

BUT THE MAIN REASON WHY, LIKE MOST OF THE COUNTRY, I LIKE JOHNNY CARSON IS THE SIMPLE REASON THAT FOR THE PAST 29 YEARS, THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD, HE HAS MADE US LAUGH.

OF COURSE, CONGRESS HAS MADE AMERICA LAUGH FOR ABOUT 200 YEARS, BUT 29 YEARS STILL ISN'T A BAD RECORD.

JOHNNY'S LAST SHOW IS TOMORROW NIGHT, AND I'M SURE EVERY MEMBER OF THE SENATE--EXCEPT THOSE HE HAS JOKED ABOUT--JOIN WITH ME IN WISHING HIM THE BEST OF LUCK IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

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