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DON REINHARDT
At Tractor

DOLE 88 Sign A Fitting Tribute

By IRENE H. JEPSEN
Kansas the wheat state, and Bob Dole, Kansas senator from Russell seeking the presidency, are both symbolized in what could be more appropriate than a wheat stubble field on the Don Reinhardt farm east of Russell.

Using his tractor, Reinhardt with his son, Steve, on the line measure, plowed a Dole 88 sign right in the middle of 80 acres. The DOLE letters each measure 650 feet in length and 450 feet in width, with the stem of each letter measuring 42 feet in breadth. The 88 is approximately half of those measurements, with a total coverage of about 14 acres.

It takes a ride over the field in an airplane to see the full effect. From the roadside, the plowed area is discernible but not readable.

Reinhardt was asked why he made the sign.

"Because I believe in Bob Dole. It's only a small thing I could contribute in support of him, and I was more than glad to do it."

"When I was a teenager he was the newly-elected county attorney and he helped me with a legal matter. Many years later, I went to LaCrosse for the grand opening of their airport with my daughter, Aimee, who then was the teenager. Bob Dole was there for the ceremony and stepped up to me, and after all those years and as if it were yesterday, said, 'Hi Don, how you doing.' And he shook my hand and Aimee's hand. So, you know he never

forgets a person. It's uncanny."

The "small thing" Reinhardt contributed took approximately three hours of his time and 10 gallons of diesel fuel. Two hours were needed for the two Reinhardt men to layout the area and 50 minutes were needed to complete the actual forming of the sign.

The ingenuity to perform such a task as a wheatfield sign is no "small thing" and a fitting tribute to the senator from Russell.

The sign is located three miles east on the Homer Road in the field to the north. The Homer Road is one-half mile from the Russell Airport on Old Highway 40.

In 1976 Reinhardt made a similar sign reading Ford/Dole for the announcement of the president-vice-president campaign that year.

"You know, you just sit on the tractor and go around and around and I'd always thought it would be fun if I could just put some kind of message in the field. That day (in 1976) it was trying to snow and my sons and I were sitting at the table discussing just that sort of thing. At a spur of the moment idea we went out and worked up the Dole/Ford sign."

"This time, when I became aware that Bob Dole might run for the presidency, I knew I would do it again."

With tongue-in-cheek, Reinhardt added, "I would do a field with Dole and his running mate, too, if he chooses a running mate with a short name."

Reisig Might Be Political Predictor

Who knows?
Adolph A. Reisig, Hays, may be one of the greatest political predictors in the history of the republic of the United States of America.

Why?
Reisig predicted a year ago that in 1991 Bob Dole of Russell would be in his third year in the White House at Washington, D.C.

In an invitation for the reunion of the Russell High School Class of 1941, Reisig urged class members:

"Please make every effort to attend this reunion to help us with the preliminary planning of our 50th. We are going to have a real humdinger in '91. Our Senator should be in his third year at the White House, and if he can't attend, he can send Air Force 1 or 2 to pick us up for a party at his house."

When Reisig sent out the invitations he said it had been 45 years since graduation of the class from RHS. "Your local classmates are planning a reunion and invite you to enjoy the fellowship of the class of '41," he said.

The reunion was held on Aug. 2, 1986, at the Russell Elks Lodge. Registration began at 5 p.m. with a "personality-adjustment



hour," followed by dinner and dancing to the Big Band Sound.

The RHS class of 1946 also held a reunion at the Elks Lodge the same evening.

Registration forms for the 1986 reunion were returned to Doris Jones, Russell.

Members of the Committee were: Shirley Deines Ayres, Henry Bender, Elsie Schrick Cobb, Ralph Resley, Geraldine

Hill Fink, Ellen Witt Grass, Dorleen Boxberger Hunter, LaVern Becker, Jim Hoffman, Wilmetta Williams Osborne, Carl Rein, John Brown, Frances Hall Nuss, Doris Kilian Jones, Mike Steponick, Betty Shaffer Funk, Bertha Ehrlich Sellens and Reisig, committee chairman.

On the invitation, Reisig flashed the Russell High School mascot, a Bronco, and "The Red and Blue Above All Others..."



THE DORAN R. DOLE fire truck was dedicated on June 6, 1981, by Mayor Roger W. Williams, left, and City Manager Glenn Hill. The truck was named in honor of Senator

Robert J. Dole's father, Doran R. Dole, who had been a continuous member of the Russell Fire Department for 50 years before his death. (Staff Photo)



NORMA JEAN, Gloria, Bob and Kenny Dole were caught by the cameraman in the backyard of the Doran R. Dole home about 1929.

Gloria is the oldest. Bob is second, Kenny is third, and Norma Jean is the baby of the family.



BOB AND ELIZABETH DOLE were dressed informally for the Kansas heat on Sept. 7, 1980, while they greeted friends at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. Dole was running for his third term in the United States

Senate. Except for the Ford-Dole loss when he was the vice-presidential running mate with President Gerald R. Ford in 1976, Dole has never lost an election. (Staff Photo)



KANSAS STATE FAIR — Senator Robert J. Dole and his wife, Elizabeth, are chatting with Mrs. Russell

Townsend at the State Fair at Hutchinson on Sept. 7, 1980. (Staff Photo)



C. R. "CHET" DAWSON, center, one of Bob Dole's former employers and also one of his best friends, and Dole's father, Doran R. Dole, stand with Congressman Dole on the Capitol steps in Washington, D.C.

CAST YOUR VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE



THESE THREE YOUNG BRONCOS are standing alongside either a 1940 or a 1941 Plymouth sedan. From

left, they are: Bob Dole, Bud Smith and JPI Leon Mai.



VOTING, FIRST WARD — Robin Dole, left, Elizabeth Dole and Senator Bob Dole are entering the First Christian Church of Russell to cast their votes on Nov. 4, 1980. The church

serves as the polling place for the First Ward of the City of Russell. Robin is Senator Dole's daughter and Elizabeth is his wife. (Staff Photo)