



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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TRIBUTE BY SENATOR DOLE TO THE LATE NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER OF NEW YORK

TOPEKA, Kan. -- Following is a tribute by Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) to the late Nelson Rockefeller:

"The death of Nelson Rockefeller deprives this nation of one of its most dedicated public servants. Gov. Rockefeller brought to public life a zest and exuberance matched by few others. He rejected the politics of doubt and despair for the politics of potential, and he left a mark upon his native New York that future generations will admire with the special respect reserved for the visionary.

"As governor, he walked in the footsteps of men like Al Smith, Franklin Roosevelt, Herbert Lehman and Thomas E. Dewey. And in the summer of 1974, when our very institutions of popular government were in doubt, Nelson Rockefeller left the state he loved and assumed the vice-presidency. In Washington, as everywhere he moved, he brought with him a contagious conviction in the possible, and a personal style of leadership that was as bold and colorful as the modern art he made his second love.

"To the nation, he spoke out for a strong defense and a creative foreign policy. To the Republican Party, where he met frustration as often as success, he urged the virtues of boldness, innovation and a commitment to revitalize urban America. To millions of persons shortchanged in the bonanza of free enterprise, this champion of free enterprise spoke with compassion and a full heart.

"In the face of his own death, Socrates urged his followers to look beyond the horizon. . .

"'Believe in this one truth for certain,' he wrote. 'That no evil can befall a good man either in life or death, and that his fate is not a matter of indifference to the gods.'

"Nelson Rockefeller was a good man. He will be missed. But even as we mourn his death, we should ponder his life. It holds lessons for all of us who would serve the public. Might those lessons serve as his ultimate bequest to the state and nation he loved so long, so well."