

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLES SALUTE KANSAS ARTIST --

GRANDMA LAYTON OF WELLSVILLE HONORED IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole and U.S. Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole today paid tribute to the artistic achievements of Elizabeth Layton of Wellsville, a 73-year-old Kansan whose work will become part of the permanent collection of the National Council on Aging's (NCOA) gallery in Washington.

The following is the Senator's statement:

I am pleased to be a co-host of this reception in honor of a truly remarkable Kansan.

It is always a pleasure when we gather together to enjoy the special gifts of an artist, but today it is extra-special when we consider the dramatic story of Elizabeth Layton.

Her success at the age of 73 is an inspiration to every American who faces "growing old" with anxiety and fear. With her remarkable portraits this Wellsville native has soundly exploded the myth of life somehow stopping at age 65, or wherever we decide that we no longer can be productive. Her artwork tells us much about not only growing old, but about the essence of life itself. All this from a Kansan who did not even begin to draw until she was 68 -- and today we honor her for artistic achievement.

Moreover, we pay tribute to the triumph of the human spirit. Through paper and pen Grandma Layton was able to climb out of the depths of despair and into the hearts of all of us.

The following is Secretary Dole's telegram:

I SO WISH I COULD BE WITH YOU THIS EVENING TO CELEBRATE THE WASHINGTON, D.C. OPENING OF ELIZABETH LAYTON'S DRAWINGS. AS A MEMBER OF THE NCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I AM PLEASED THAT THE TRAVELERS COMPANIES IS SPONSORING THIS EXHIBITION WHICH MAKES A TIMELY AND IMPORTANT STATEMENT ABOUT CREATIVITY AND AGING. THIS IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF THE TRAVELERS COMPANIES COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING THE LIVES OF OLDER AMERICANS.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Hanford Dole".
ELIZABETH H. DOLE
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION