

Bob Dole



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

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TRIBUTE TO GEORGE STAFFORD

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today made the following statement on the floor of the U.S. Senate in commemoration of George Stafford:

One of the most remarkable public servants in Kansas history was Frank Carlson, who served in this Chamber for eighteen years. During his career, Senator Carlson also served for four years as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives, twelve years in the United States House of Representatives, and four years as Governor.

Senator Carlson did many great things in his career, including helping to draft Dwight Eisenhower for President in 1952.

But I am here this morning to talk about another great thing that Frank Carlson did. And that's the fact that he brought George Stafford to Washington, D.C.

George passed away last week, and I wanted to take a minute to remember this outstanding Kansas and outstanding American.

George was Executive Secretary to Frank Carlson during his term as Governor, and followed him to Washington as his Senate Administrative Assistant.

He served in that role for 17 years with great intelligence and integrity, always reaching out to provide advice and support to young Kansans who were new in town.

In 1967, then-President Johnson appointed George to serve on the Interstate Commerce Commission. He remained on the Commission until 1980, serving as its Chairman for seven years.

George's years in Topeka and Washington are not the only examples of the service he gave to his country. He also defended freedom in World War II, rising to the rank of Captain, and receiving both the bronze star and the purple heart.

Like many in Kansas and in Washington, I was proud to call George Stafford my friend. I know that Senator Kassebaum joins with me in extending our sympathies to Lena Stafford, George's wife of 48 years; his children; Bill, Susan, and Quincy; and his five grandchildren.

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