

SENATOR BOB DOLE  
REMARKS AT VIRGINIA SMITH  
FAREWELL PARTY  
SEPTEMBER 19, 1990

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE  
TO HONOR ONE OF THE  
OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE  
U.S. CONGRESS, OUR FRIEND  
VIRGINIA SMITH.



VIRGINIA'S ROOTS ARE FIRMLY  
PLANTED IN THE HEARTLAND OF  
AMERICA. SHE WAS INVOLVED  
IN GRASSROOTS FARM  
ORGANIZATIONS FOR FORTY  
YEARS BEFORE SHE BEGAN HER  
DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN  
CONGRESS. I CAN'T THINK OF  
ANYONE ON THE HILL WHO  
BROUGHT SO MUCH FARM

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EXPERIENCE TO WASHINGTON.  
SHE ALSO HOLDS THE  
DISTINCTION OF BEING THE FIRST  
WOMAN ELECTED TO CONGRESS  
FROM HER STATE OF NEBRASKA.

WASHINGTON HAS A WAY OF  
CHANGING PEOPLE, BUT  
VIRGINIA SMITH HAS NEVER  
FORGOTTEN WHERE SHE CAME



FROM. IN HER 16 YEARS IN THE  
HOUSE, VIRGINIA HAS BEEN AN  
IMPORTANT VOICE FOR  
AGRICULTURE, RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND THE FAMILY  
FARMER. WHETHER IT'S FARM  
SUPPORTS, RURAL HEALTH CARE,  
TRANSPORTATION OR WATER  
DEVELOPMENT, VIRGINIA SMITH  
HAS BEEN ON THE FRONT LINES,



FIGHTING FOR THE INTERESTS OF  
HER STATE AND HER DISTRICT.

WHEN A PUBLIC SERVANT  
LOOKS BACK AT A CAREER,  
NOTHING IS MORE FULFILLING  
THAN KNOWING YOU'VE MADE  
A DIFFERENCE — AND NO  
DOUBT ABOUT IT, VIRGINIA  
SMITH HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE.  
OVER THE YEARS, I'VE HAD



THE PLEASURE OF WORKING  
WITH HER ON A VARIETY OF  
ISSUES IMPORTANT TO OUR  
CONSTITUENTS. SO I KNOW  
FIRST HAND HOW LUCKY THE  
PEOPLE OF NEBRASKA HAVE  
BEEN TO HAVE HER REPRESENT  
THEM. AND JUDGING BY THE  
REMARKABLE REELECTION  
NUMBERS SHE HAS

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CONSISTENTLY RACKED UP, HER  
CONSTITUENTS KNOW HOW  
FORTUNATE THEY ARE TO BE  
REPRESENTED BY A WOMAN OF  
SUCH UNCOMMON DEDICATION,  
ENERGY, SKILL AND GRACE.

AND SHE HAS ALSO  
DEMONSTRATED FLAWLESS  
WISDOM IN SUPPORT FOR  
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES!

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SO, AS SHE RETURNS HOME  
TO A LIFE OF GREATER  
INVOLVEMENT IN THE CIVIC  
ORGANIZATIONS AND CHURCH  
SHE LOVES SO MUCH, WE IN  
WASHINGTON WILL MISS THIS  
GENTLE WOMAN FROM  
CHAPPELL WHO WILL ALWAYS  
BE A "GIANT" IN NEBRASKA'S  
HISTORY OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

