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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 3, 2009, at 11 a.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2008

(Legislative day of Wednesday, December 10, 2008)

The Senate met at 10 and 23 seconds a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable CARL LEVIN, a Senator from the State of Michigan.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U. S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 12, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CARL LEVIN, a Senator from the State of Michigan, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. LEVIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

TRIBUTES TO SENATORS

ELIZABETH DOLE

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, one of the great privileges of my career has been the time I have spent working alongside Senator Bob Dole and his wife, Senator ELIZABETH DOLE. I feel a special kinship to the Doles. Not only are they both dear friends to Elaine and me, but in my position as Republican Leader I often think back on

Bob's superb stewardship of the office. BOB DOLE was in many ways a model and a mentor to me. I was humbled and honored to assume a role that he filled for so long with such dignity and skill. And today I am honored to submit for the RECORD a letter of tribute from my old friend to his remarkable wife at the conclusion of her Senate career. ELIZABETH DOLE has graced this chamber in the same way that she has graced every other institution of which she has been a part in a long and distinguished career of public service. We will miss Senator DOLE's kindness, her warmth, and her unyielding belief in the greatness of her country. Senator DOLE is one of the great public servants of our day. It is my great pleasure to ask that this letter from one dear friend to another be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows.

DECEMBER 12, 2008.

DEAR MITCH: I wish I could be a Senator again just long enough to speak of Senator Elizabeth Dole's accomplishments which have spanned a period of nearly a half century.

Elizabeth correctly chose to focus her farewell remarks on those who helped and counseled her along the way. She spoke about those who were most important in her life's journey such as her mother, her father, her teachers, co-workers, and her dear brother, John, who passed away on April 8, 2008. John was her mentor, her confidant, and a proud naval officer in World War II. Elizabeth's speech was all about others rather than herself, which, in itself, says a lot about Elizabeth as a caring human being.

So in an indirect way, I want to share her many areas of service with all those think-

ing about their future and the path they will follow. Believe me when I say they will not find a better example than the Senator Dole from North Carolina. Senator Dole, in many respects, was a pioneer for American women, as many of her early opportunities came before women were in the forefront of public or private sectors of meaningful service activity.

Elizabeth has never stopped looking for ways to make a difference. It would be impossible to determine the number of good people in North Carolina and across America that Elizabeth's efforts have had an impact upon, myself included. She assisted me three times in campaigning full-time for the presidency, taking a one year leave of absence from the Red Cross, but more importantly were the countless times she assisted me personally because of my disabilities.

Let me recount some of the highlights of Senator Dole's career so that those who may be looking for a role model may fully understand the differences she has made for others, regardless of party, race, religion or status.

PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER AND SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ELIZABETH DOLE

Early 1960's: Summer jobs during graduate school

Office of Senator B. Everett Jordan (D-NC)
United Nations Guide
United Nations Intern Program

1966-1967: Assistant at the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare

After completing her Master of Arts in Teaching and her graduation from Harvard Law School, Elizabeth Hanford was hired by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Her assignments there included planning the first-ever United States government sponsored conference on education of the deaf. This conference, which spawned a career-long dedication to the rights of the disabled, was held in Colorado Springs in

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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