

She Touched the Lives of Many...

Margaret Chase Smith left this earth on May 29, 1995, at her home in Skowhegan where she was surrounded by family and friends. At the age of 97, she had suffered a major stroke and lapsed into a coma. Saddened by the great loss, calls from friends and admirers from across the nation poured in and memories flooded the minds of many in reminiscing about the associations with one of the most prestigious political figures of the 20th century. Throughout her long career in the United States Congress, Senator Smith earned a reputation for independence, integrity, honesty, and as a gifted and dedicated public servant. Her Declaration of Conscience speech, delivered on the Senate floor on June 1, 1950, was one of the earliest condemnations of the excesses of McCarthyism. As a result, Senator Smith's name became synonymous with courage and dedication to responsible government. Throughout her career, her reputation grew steadily as she served the people of Maine during six presidential administrations from Franklin D. Roosevelt through Richard M. Nixon.

Born in Skowhegan on December 14, 1897, Margaret Chase Smith was the daughter of Carrie Murray Chase and George Emery Chase. She displayed early in life the independence which characterized her political career. She briefly taught school, worked as a telephone operator, was circulation manager for the local Skowhegan newspaper, the **Independent Reporter**, and was an executive with a textile mill. During the 1920's, she gained many of the skills which later served her in Washington through her work with women's organizations, in particular the Skowhegan Business and Professional Women's Club of which she was a founder. In 1930, she married Clyde H. Smith, a respected political leader in central Maine who ran in nearly fifty elections. He was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 1936 and served until his untimely death in 1940. After conducting four campaigns in five months, Margaret Chase Smith succeeded her husband in representing Maine's Second District.

Throughout her congressional career, Senator Smith had a strong interest in military issues. During WWII, she secured a seat on the Naval Affairs Committee from which she virtually single-handedly earned permanent status for women in the military. Following a successful eight years in the House, Margaret Chase Smith beat the odds when she soundly defeated the incumbent
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(Cont. from cover)

governor, Horace Hildreth; former governor Sumner Sewal; and the Reverend Albion Beverage in the Republican primary and easily

To the Friends and Family of Senator Smith

...She has always been a special friend to the staff and students of Margaret Chase Smith School in Sanford. Each time that we sent her a gift or samples of school work, she would respond with such a kind, heartwarming letter. We have kept all of them in our school scrapbook.

A few years ago when she was ill our students sent her get well cards. She in turn sent each and every child an autographed picture postcard. You can't begin to know what that meant to those children. This past Monday, a senior volunteer was entering our school. Two of our students ran up to her and exclaimed, "You're Margaret Chase Smith!" The volunteer responded by saying that she was honored to be called Senator Smith but in fact she was not. Later in the day, I asked the two children about this incident. They said, "Well she had white hair and a big smile just like Margaret Chase Smith." This is indeed how they think of our special friend. Her portrait hangs in our main hallway and children pass it every day as they leave school. And yes there is this wonderful lady with white hair and a big smile!

Next week we have three music concerts scheduled. At the end of each program, we always sing the Margaret Chase Smith School Song. This year that song will hold special meaning to us all...

MARGARET CHASE SMITH SCHOOL SONG

**It started like a seed planted in the ground,
Growing and blooming with hardly a sound
Like a rose rising to proclaim,
Margaret Chase Smith School is it's name.**

**Named for one who cherished freedom;
Named for one who dared;
Named for one who would overcome;**

**It started like a seed planted in the ground,
Growing and blooming with hardly a sound
Like a rose rising to proclaim,
Margaret Chase Smith School is it's name.**



GALLANT SPEAKS FRANKLY ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE LIBRARY

Since Senator Smith's passing, the library staff and I have been asked a variety of questions regarding the future of the Margaret Chase Smith Library. The great range of speculation prompts me to address this issue. It should be stated unequivocally that the people involved with the library, from the Board of Directors to Advisory Committee members to Senator Smith's family to the library staff, are committed to carrying on her vision, hopes, and intentions for her lasting legacy, the Margaret Chase Smith Library.

Senator Smith never wanted the library to become simply a museum of her political memorabilia. Her post-political life was dedicated to Maine's primary and secondary school students. She wanted to create an institution where students could learn the value of performing public service and could study the important events of this century. Her life and career serve as an ideal role model on both counts. As such, we are making plans for the further development of programs which will make the library an educational center for students. We want to take the lead in providing resources for field trips to the library. Among the possible plans is the creation of an annual mock U. S. Senate for high school students; symposiums for social studies teachers; and other programs through which students, educators, and the public can appreciate the accomplishments and service through which Senator Margaret Chase Smith enriched the lives of so many. We look forward to the future with confidence that we can fulfill this important mission in a manner and dedication of which Senator Smith would be proud.

won the general election in September for the United States Senate in 1948. As a result, she became the first woman in the nation's history to serve in both houses of the U. S. Congress and the first to be elected to the U. S. Senate in her own right.

Senator Smith's Declaration of Conscience of 1950 brought national attention. In 1952, her name was mentioned in connection with the Vice Presidential nomination. She gained appointments to the most powerful Senate committees including Armed Services, Appropriations, and the Aeronautical and Space Sciences. She helped forge a commitment by the federal government to support work in the field of medical research. In 1954, at a particularly heightened period of Cold War tensions, she characteristically embarked upon a personally financed World Tour to twenty-three countries during which she met and interviewed nearly every major world leader. Again, reflecting her sense of duty to her position, she interrupted the trip in order to return to the Senate for the McCarthy censure vote in December, 1954.

In 1960, Senator Smith again made history when she defeated her Democratic opponent Lucia Cormier. It marked the first time two women had vied for the same Senate seat. After her reelection, she became one of the most vociferous critics of the Kennedy Administration defense policies. Her scrutiny of Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara exposed holes in policies and again placed her in the national spotlight. It helped set the stage for her 1964 run for the Presidency. JFK's assassination only delayed the inevitable. On January 27, 1964, Margaret Chase Smith announced her candidacy for the nation's highest elective office. At the Cow Palace in San Francisco that July, Senator Smith became the first woman to have her name placed in nomination for the Presidency at a major political party's national convention.

Throughout the remainder of her political career, Senator Smith continued to represent Maine with distinction. She guarded her independence and worked tirelessly on behalf of Maine's industry and individuals. Her votes against Nixon Supreme Court nominees Clement C. Haynsworth and G. Harold Carswell illustrated her commitment to principle and independence. She played a significant role in the Senate's deliberations over the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and other arms control efforts during the early seventies. In 1972, Senator Smith, contemplating retirement, was narrowly defeated for reelection by Representative William D. Hathaway.

After retiring from political life, Senator Smith launched a second career in education. For more than three years she toured the nation's colleges and universities as visiting professor with the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Accompanying her was Major General William C. Lewis, Jr., her longtime Executive Assistant in the Senate. General Lewis joined her during the 1948 Senate campaign and remained her confidante and aide until his death in 1982. Together they planned for the creation of the Northwood University Margaret Chase Smith Library which adjoins her home on the banks of the Kennebec River in Skowhegan. She played an active role in the library's programs and particularly enjoyed meeting with visiting school groups up until her death.

(Cont. on pg. 5)

(Cont. from pg. 3)

Our nation has lost a great leader...
Markham Lyons

Maine is a poorer and sadder state today as it reflects on the loss of one of its dearest daughters...
Karen Lemke

She was a remarkable lady who served her country well... Ruth Pease

Truly a great lady... Bob Smith

She was an inspiration to all who knew her—she gave me great courage years ago... Vivian Gilbert

We are sad to learn of this beautiful woman's death; we know she is one of God's most treasured angels...
Sandy Ruoss

Her consistently warm and cooperative reception of my requests, her patience, and, above all, her love for all people has touched me deeply...
Marlene Vallin

God will care for her now; she has earned a great spot in Eternity...
Hattie Greenwood

Leaders of today and those of future generations can learn volumes from her unwavering adherence to principles and her unyielding commitment to the people she served... John Baldacci

A RED ROSE IN THE MASTER BOUQUET
Our loss but Heaven's gain,
The Clouds sent down a gentle rain.
A beautiful rose for the Master Bouquet,
She left our lives in the month of May.
A gift of charm and wit and blend of love,
A touch from the Lord above.
A sense of humor and honesty,
The way we all should be.
Our Nation was blessed as you look in the past,
But our memories will always last.
As I look at the river from her earthly domain,
And a simple life we live here in Maine.
I think of our blessings and all she has done,
And look to the West at the setting sun.
by Carl Anton

I've always written to her; she always took the time to answer personally, always a great lady with compassion and love for all the people of Maine...we will miss her profoundly...
Cecile Frechette

With greatest respect for your sincere friendship while you were with us...
Bud & Charlotte Murtha

A model of all that is finest in public service... Jonathan Glidden

May the Lord God welcome you with open arms for all the good you have done for others...
Gerald Nadeau

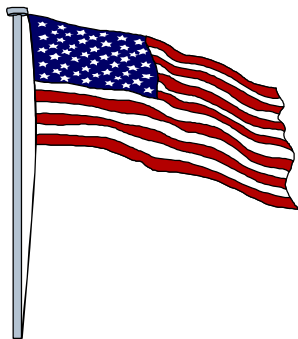
ACHESON LAMENTS SHE NEVER SAW THE FINISHED PORTRAIT

Nothing in this world, aside from Senator Smith's passing, has saddened me more than the thought that after all these years of working on that portrait, trying to capture the spiritual essence of her clean courage—as well as trying to incorporate stylizations from both Rembrandt and Wyeth, she never got to see it. I will fault myself for that for a long, long time...after 24 years, the Almighty wouldn't give us another week.

There never was a more powerful and brilliant Senator who helped more people, nor as kind and thoughtful a human being as Margaret Chase Smith. She personified the Absolute Ideal of Honest American Public Service. We have all lost a great friend. She was very, very special.

Robert Acheson
Mexico ME

*The Acheson painting was on display at the Library during the Memorial Services but has been returned to the artist for finishing touches. An article in the June 14, 1995, issue of the **Lewiston Sun-Journal** highlighted Mr. Acheson's fine work.



She stands as a monument to the power of simple Maine honesty and integrity and common sense. She will be sorely missed, fondly remembered, and never forgotten...

Hon. James B. Longley

On behalf of the family and staff of the library, sincere thanks to all the many, many friends from across the country and the State of Maine who expressed their condolences by way of cards, letters, and floral arrangements. Were Senator Smith here, she would want to thank each and every person individually for the thoughtfulness and many kindnesses during the time of her stroke and subsequent death. The Nation has lost a great statesman, a national legend, and a dear, dear friend. We have, indeed, been blessed in knowing her.

SLEEP WELL, DEAR SENATOR, WE LOVE YOU
December 14, 1897 - May 29, 1995

Friends of the Library Newsletter

Margaret Chase Smith Library
Norridgewock Avenue, Neil Hill
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Skowhegan ME 04976

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Annual Appreciation Day and Open House

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1995

featuring the opening of Senator Smith's residence to the public

Highlighted in **Ladies' Home Journal** in November, 1956, Senator Smith's kitchen was "top of the line" in its decor and "user friendliness." The snug, 8-room home, perched high on the banks above the Kennebec River, is a Margaret Chase Smith original. She sketched plan after plan for this place in her hometown, Skowhegan. The one-floor home takes full advantage of a spectacular scenic view of river and mountains—and reflects the Senator's own philosophy of living. "Because I like the living room to be really a *room for living*, it is large, and the other rooms are small." The big main room on the river side has a 40-foot sweep of windows facing the view. Bookcases line one end, a fireplace fills the opposite wall, and furnishings are mellowed mahogany and fruitwood antiques. The Senator's own touches are felt in soft cool colors, in fine old glass accessories and in her hand-worked needle point on chairs and stools. Meals are served in the fireplace end of the room. Grouped around the living room are modest-sized bedrooms, one being the room in which President Dwight D. Eisenhower slept in 1955. A large entrance hall doubles as her reception room-office. When Maine people sit on the red-velvet covered sofa and walnut chairs from her grandmother's home, they smile and exclaim over the small chair, reserved for the tiniest constituents but once used by Margaret as a girl.

Until the early 80s, the home served Senator Smith well, at which

time the Margaret Chase Smith Library was built to house her legacy of more than 32 years in our nation's capitol.

Join her many friends on October 29 to see the home which held a special place in her heart, the home which she returned to after the 1972 election, and the home in which she died on May 29, 1995.

Throughout her career, Senator Smith received numerous honors recognizing her contributions to the nation. She was the recipient of ninety-five honorary degrees from educational institutions across the country. In July, 1989, President George Bush presented her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Her standing as one of the most respected, admired, and loved political figures is reflected in the universal respect shown to her across political and ideological lines. As she herself expressed in 1953, "My creed is that public service must be more than doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the nation with full recognition that every human being is entitled to courtesy and consideration, that constructive criticism is not only to be expected but sought, that smears are not only to be expected but fought, that honor is to be earned but not bought."

She is survived by her sister Evelyn Williams of Skowhegan and several nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held at the Margaret Chase Smith Library on June 16, 1995, at 2 p.m.

WOMEN SENATORS PAY TRIBUTE

Excerpts taken from June 6, 1995, Congressional Record

Senator Olympia Snowe (R-Maine). Mr. President, it gives me a great deal of honor and privilege to be here today to join some of my female Senators in paying tribute to Senator Margaret Chase Smith, who passed away on Memorial Day, after 97 years of courage, bravery, integrity, and pioneering spirit. I would like to join the people of Maine, the Nation, and my colleagues in saying goodbye to Margaret Chase Smith, forever the Senator from Maine. She lived through two world wars, 17 Presidents, and outlived over 70 years of communism. She was given 95 honorary degrees throughout her life, almost one degree for every year of her time on Earth. She rose from the humblest of beginnings to the highest corridors of power. She was a leader, an inspiration, a nation's conscience, a visionary, and a woman of endless firsts. Margaret Chase Smith once said. "If I were to do it all over again, I would change nothing. I am very proud of my public service. I have no regrets...no regrets, no changes—I would do it all over again." I know I speak on behalf of Maine and my colleagues when I say I wish you could.

Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-Maryland). Mr. President, I rise today as the dean of Democratic women to salute a great and grand lady, a daughter of Maine, Senator Margaret Chase Smith. Growing up as a young girl, there were very few role models that I or women of my generation had for women participating in politics. Certainly, there had been Eleanor Roosevelt who served as the First Lady of the United States of America. But during the fifties, as a high school girl, I admired two great women—Clare Boothe Luce and Margaret Chase Smith of Maine. In those days we did not use words like "role models," but terms like "examples," about how women could retain their femininity and dignity and yet participate in the dynamic world of politics.

Senator Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kansas). Mr. President, I would like to speak about the spirit of her service and what it has meant to me and to so many others. She was a woman who refused to be bound by stereotypes or labels. She was not a woman Senator, she was simply a Senator. Her interests were wide-ranging because they were her own and not a narrow agenda imposed by gender, region, or parochial concerns. She was a true expert on defense matters, military preparedness, space exploration, and NATO. She had deep and strongly held concerns about civil rights law, education policy and the rules of the Senate. She spoke both gently and forthrightly, but always went from personal conviction and principles. She is rightly remembered as a Senator with great spunk, intelligence, and commitment. She sought not only to represent the people of Maine but also to fulfill her responsibilities to the Nation as a whole. In her 24 years in the U.S. Senate, she spoke always with honesty and clarity, seeking facts and judging each issue on its merits. Those are high standards, Mr. President, a worthy legacy to pass on to those who will follow her in this Chamber.

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas). Mr. President, ...when I was growing up, I remember people talking about Margaret Chase Smith, not as anything unusual, but as a fine Senator, respected in her own right. "One tough hombre," as we would say in Texas. I rise to pay homage to a woman who embodied clarity of conscience and strength of character during her 24 years in this Chamber. Margaret Chase Smith was a role model. She led the way for others to follow. She left her mark. She was, in fact, an architect of the Nation's cold war defense. She was a credit to the U. S. Senate. I hope to live up to the high standards that she set. I honor her service. I offer my condolences and those of all Texans to the family and friends of Margaret Chase Smith. May she rest in peace.

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-California). Mr. President, I hope that in the sadness of the family's loss, they can reflect with pride, as we are, on the remarkable life of Margaret Chase Smith. When we think about it, she lived through World War I, World War II, the beginning and the end of the cold war. She lived through women's suffrage and civil rights. She saw her country and her world grow in many amazing ways. But she never just sat back. She made history herself and, in doing so, touched many lives, including my own. My mother was an FDR Democrat through and through. Yet, she used to point with pride to Margaret Chase Smith. "Imagine what she must be like," my mother would say. "One woman among all those men. She must be something!" and she was. Although she lived 97 years on this Earth, she will be missed. But I believe her presence will always be in this Chamber.

Referring to the Margaret Chase Smith Library in his remarks during the Memorial Service, Merton G. Henry said, "It was her fondest dream, to which the staff of the library and her family and friends now dedicate themselves, that this facility flourish in the years ahead not only as a research library and public policy center, but also as a place to which school children from across the State can come to learn the lessons of public life which she epitomized—dedication to service, integrity and independence. That is her legacy and now like Lincoln, she belongs to the ages."

To help fulfill her dream, a fund has been established for an annual award to a high school student for the best essay relating to public service and citizenship. Details will be sent to all Maine high schools.

Contributions to this fund in her memory may be sent to:

**Margaret Chase Smith Foundation
PO Box 4510
Portland ME 04112**

Merton G. Henry, "[the library] is her legacy and now like Lincoln, she belongs to the ages."

"What Senator Margaret Chase Smith means to each of us is now engraven deep within our hearts and minds."
Rev. Maynard Hammond

We wish you Godspeed, Margaret Chase Smith. We promise to continue to act as if you were standing before us, observing all. It will make us better people in the future as it has in the past.

David E. Fry

"She embodied the best of Maine," said Governor Angus King during the Memorial Services on June 16. In describing Margaret Chase Smith, words such as "common sense," "independent," and "feisty" were among his remarks.

All Memorial Service photos were presented to the Library as a gift of Photographer Whitney Draper of

In his poem, "Psalm of Life," Longfellow wrote:

**Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;
Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.**

(Excerpts of poem read at the Memorial Service by Merton G. Henry)

THROUGH THE SANDS OF TIME...THE FACES OF MARGARET

A TRIBUTE IN VERSE

FOR MARGARET

To the Honorable Woman of Maine

For all the players in the games
Of politics and life,
We must admire those
Who take a stand where all can see
The strength they hold
In simple honesty.

So many vie to gain the lead
By satisfying petty greed.
They take advantage without principle.
True self-respect and friendship
Never know them.

Our government, our lives, are best
When thoughtfully we tender
An ear to others' points of view,
Diplomacy and truth,
Not selfishness.

For in the end each life shall pass,
We settle into dust.
Though petals from the Rose will fall,
We leave behind a part of us.
Of all the souls whose paths we cross in life,
Whose deeds will be remembered?

We talk of change.
We sow our dreams upon the fertile ground of
youth,
Yet, there the seeds of avarice emerge.
Uncultivated gardens yield
A harvest's bitter truth;
Unwise investments suffer poor returns.

Thus, through our guidance
Or neglect,
Our children's attitudes unfold the course
That countries, continents, and Earth
Will follow.

The schoolyard that we see today
The games these small adults will play,
Are preface to the quality
Of Life, and Politics
Tomorrow.

Craig Comstock

*There was a woman in Washington that everyone knows;
She was a very famous person and she wore a red rose.
In thirty-four years she gained great fame;
no other woman in the world can make this claim.
She was in the House and the Senate too,
while making the sacrifice, for me and for you.
When she voted on the issues, no one pushed her around;
with her own determination, she could stand her own ground.
Many famous people would feel very pleased,
to reach her record, ninety-five honorary degrees.
Many times she was chosen, one of the most admired since 1954.
You can't find many people to even up this score.
This Maine woman is admired in every state,
following in the footsteps of the man who was her mate.
More than fifty National honors, this woman did acclaim;
other famous women would settle for one of the same.
She served on great committees with many famous men;
their admiration for her is as strong now as it was then.
She received gripes from constituents, and answered without delay
even though she was busy she would answer some the same day.
Please don't get the impression, she was getting too much praise;
if you only knew what she had been through, you'd agree a little
praise pays.
Thirty-four years is a long time to be served by a woman or man;
if you have any influence, try beating her record if you can.
Even though she was a leading woman of this nation,
she never complained about liberation or discrimination.
Margaret Chase Smith was this woman's name;
through her untiring efforts she gained great fame.*

*Perley McNutt, 1971
revised 6-15-95*

THERE IS NO DEATH...

“This rose from Maine will remain ever fresh in our minds and will not wither over time.” Senator William S. Cohen

Nephew John Bernier and family proceed to Memorial Service

Senator Smith’s sister, Evelyn Williams after the services

Dr. R. Gary Stauffer reads from Ecclesiasticus 44

Hon. John R. McKernan, Jr. and Senator Olympia Snowe view the urn placed in Senator Smith’s home

Merton Henry escorts former Majority Leader George J. Mitchell

Niece Anne Herrin leads the audience in the 23rd Psalm

Captain Georgia McKearly reads “There is No Death,” a favorite poem of Senator Smith.

Former Governors Kenneth Curtis, John H. Reed, and John R. McKernan join Governor Angus King prior to the services.

SPECIAL MEMORIAL EDITION

MARGARET CHASE SMITH
December 14, 1897 - May 29, 1995