

Calautti's extensive and varied career in the interest of the public, includes service in the United States Navy as an aerial photographer during the Vietnam War. After that her inspiration to serve the American people never faded—in fact it was enhanced—as she photographed protesters outside the 1968 Democratic convention. Her experience in Chicago at the convention of the social turmoil in our country at that time were some of the experiences that has made Lucy the dynamic and sensitive person she is.

Lucy headed west to North Dakota from her birthplace in Queens, New York. She fell in love with the people and land of North Dakota as much as the people and land of North Dakota fell in love with her. She admired North Dakotans' independence, their hard work, and their idealism. It wasn't long after Lucy arrived in North Dakota that she began working with now Senator DORGAN when he became the elected State Tax Commissioner. Theirs was a unique working partnership—one that has lasted more than a quarter of a century.

In her lifetime, Lucy has also been a champion for the rights of women, children, and working families. Some may not know how tirelessly Lucy Calautti has fought for women's rights throughout her career. Lucy began her dedication to the rights of women when she participated in landmark anti-discrimination litigation. As a female GI, she was a courageous pioneer who realized first-hand that the benefits extended to women paled in comparison to the benefits extended to her male colleagues. Lucy took up the cause, and made sure that, for the first time, full GI benefits were provided to women serving in the military. Lucy continued her career in grassroots organizing on behalf of the Women's Democratic Caucus in North Dakota. In fact, *The Hill* newspaper would later anoint Lucy the "best political organizer the state of North Dakota has ever seen." And while so many people would have stopped with just these accomplishments, Lucy continued to establish the first public child care center in North Dakota, extending the most necessary service to women who juggle work, family, and far too often, poverty.

Lucy's career in public service has also included one of the most important positions in American society today—teaching. Lucy shaped the minds of our future leaders through her years as a high school and college-level teacher. To this day, Lucy continues her commitment to our nation's children, reading to DC-area children every week. Truly, an inspiration.

Lucy has, literally, shifted the political landscape in North Dakota and the U.S. Senate. As campaign manager Lucy Calautti engineered a come-from-behind victory for KENT CONRAD in the

1986 U.S. Senate race against a seated Republican, marking the first time since 1944 that an incumbent North Dakota Senator lost a reelection bid. Her knowledge of the people of North Dakota coupled with her superior grassroots organizing skills and her media savvy resulted in a campaign that is so respected, it was the subject of a book entitled "When Incumbency Fails."

Contemporaries know Lucy most for her leadership in the office of Senator DORGAN, as she has served as Chief of Staff to Senator DORGAN for more than twenty years. During this time, Lucy performed a key role in shepherding key legislation through the United States Senate. It wasn't too long ago that Lucy played an instrumental role with the Democratic party, staving off the Republican push for a Balanced Budget Amendment, and worked to push an amendment that would not harm Social Security. In those tense days, Lucy was the calm inside the storm, as she quickly worked for a common-sense approach to the issue at the same time she helped bring the state of North Dakota into the limelight. For her skills in politics and legislation, Lucy has been praised universally by her peers. A former aide to the late Senator Quentin Burdick lauded Lucy Calautti as "incredibly astute about politics and human nature, and absolutely brilliant at running a campaign." Former coworkers reserve the highest accolades for Lucy, including one, who praised Lucy as "smart, analytical, meticulous, loyal, and a hard worker." *The Hill* newspaper even crowned Lucy Calautti with the title of "most powerful woman in the nation's capital."

Now, we are losing Lucy to one of her lifetime loves—baseball. I suppose it is only natural that Lucy return to one of her first and most ardent interests. Growing up in Queens, Lucy lived not too far from Shea Stadium where she began her love of our nation's favorite pastime. Last week, her father passed away. He instilled in her a love of the game of baseball, among so many other attributes. She walks in her father's footsteps, and I'm sure he's the proudest Dad in the world. It is with a great deal of respect that I pay tribute to Lucy Calautti today. Soon, Lucy will join the Major League Baseball Organization as Director of Government Relations. She'll still be playing ball with us, and it's be fun.

Thank you, Lucy, for the time we have been able to enjoy your magnificent intellect and skills in the United States Senate. I thank you for your hard work, your dedication, your idealism, and your service to our country and most of all for you and KENT being the good friends you have been to Landra and to me.●

TRIBUTE TO R. GENE SMITH

● Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and philanthropist, R. Gene Smith.

I have had the privilege of knowing Gene for many years, and have always been able to witness his compassion for others on numerous occasions. Gene has a kind heart and a giving spirit, and constantly thinks of ways to help those less fortunate than himself. Eight years ago, he offered another of his generous gifts to a fourth grade class in Louisville. In a spectacular show of kindness, Gene promised an all-expense paid college education to 58 students at Jefferson County's poorest school, Engelhard Elementary. The students' part of the deal entailed completing high school and gaining acceptance to a post-secondary college or university. As fourth graders, these children probably couldn't grasp the incredible opportunity they were offered then, but they certainly understand it now.

As Gene often does, he went the extra mile on his promise and committed to helping each of the 58 students graduate from high school. He created the R. Gene Smith Foundation to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of each child. Over the students' eight-year journey to graduation, the Foundation served as a haven for the children and facilitated learning and personal growth opportunities. In spite of numerous obstacles, Gene and his students exceeded expectations and recently celebrated the graduation of 31 of the original 58 students.

Gene gave an amazing gift. Not only did Gene provide a free college education, but he provided each of the students and their parents with compassion, motivation, and peace of mind over the last eight years. He prevented 31 sets of parents from having to worry about whether they would have the money to pay for their child's education. He provided 31 students with hope for a bright and successful future.

Although this latest act of compassion is extraordinary, it is only one example of Gene's generosity. Gene chaired fund-raising efforts for Neighborhood House, a community center in a poverty-stricken area of Portland, Kentucky. He supports a preschool program for underprivileged children in Kentucky, called Jump Start. Additionally, he donated \$1 million towards redevelopment of the Louisville waterfront. Gene also lends his support to such civic groups as the Speed Art Museum, the Cathedral Heritage Foundation, the University of Louisville Hospital Foundation, and Greater Louisville, Inc.

On behalf of myself and my colleagues in the United States Senate, I offer heartfelt thanks to Gene for his continuing commitment to helping others and a hearty congratulations to