

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 374

Honoring President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 9, 2004

Mr. FRIST submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Honoring President Ronald Wilson Reagan.

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th President of the United States, was born on February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois, to Nelle and John Reagan and raised in Dixon, Illinois;

Whereas as a lifeguard at Rock River in Lowell, Illinois, a young Ronald Reagan saved the lives of 77 swimmers;

Whereas Ronald Reagan enrolled in Eureka College where he played football, acted in amateur theater, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and sociology;

Whereas Ronald Reagan landed his first job as a radio announcer for WOC in Davenport, Iowa, and went on to become a popular sports announcer;

Whereas Ronald Reagan launched a movie career that spanned 50 movies, including his most famous role as the football legend, “The Gipper”;

Whereas Ronald Reagan, who received more fan mail than any other actor at Warner Brothers Studios except Errol Flynn, served as president of the Screen Actors Guild from 1947 to 1960;

Whereas on March 4, 1952, Ronald Reagan married his great love, Nancy Davis, who was to become his lifelong confidante and companion;

Whereas Ronald Reagan was the father of 4 children: Maureen, Michael, Patti, and Ronald Prescott;

Whereas Ronald Reagan hosted the popular television series “GE Theater” from 1954 to 1962;

Whereas in 1962, Ronald Reagan switched his party affiliation from Democrat to Republican and 2 years later delivered a major televised speech in support of Presidential candidate Barry Goldwater;

Whereas in 1966, Ronald Reagan won the governorship of California and in 1970 was reelected to a second term;

Whereas Governor Reagan campaigned for the Republican nomination in 1968, and again in 1976;

Whereas on July 16, 1980, the former Governor won the Republican nomination and on November 4, 1980, won the United States Presidency in a landslide vote;

Whereas President Reagan appointed the first woman to the United States Supreme Court, Justice Sandra Day O’Connor;

Whereas on March 30, 1981, only 2 months into his Presidency, Ronald Reagan survived an assassination attempt

and upon meeting Nancy in the hospital, quipped with characteristic good humor, “Honey, I forgot to duck”;

Whereas President Reagan delivered on his promise to cut taxes for American workers in 1981, and achieved the historic tax cuts of 1986 which overhauled the Federal tax code and reduced tax rates for almost all taxpayers, including removing 6,000,000 Americans from the tax rolls;

Whereas under President Reagan’s leadership, inflation fell, interest rates declined, and by the seventh year of his Presidency, the stock market hit an all-time high;

Whereas President Reagan presided over the longest economic expansion in the history of the United States until that time and rebuilt the national defenses of the United States;

Whereas President Reagan won reelection in 1984 carrying 49 out of 50 States—one of the biggest electoral victories in the political history of the United States;

Whereas during summit meetings with Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev in December 1987, President Reagan signed a treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces;

Whereas President Reagan’s steadfast opposition to communism, his unshakeable resolve to defeat the “Evil Empire”, and his secure belief in government for and by the people, led to the collapse of the Berlin Wall and victory in the Cold War;

Whereas President Reagan’s belief in freedom as a God-given right of all peoples led to a democratic revolution across Central America; and

Whereas Ronald Wilson Reagan, father, husband, actor, and dedicated public servant, restored the pride, optimism and strength of the United States and earned the deep respect and affection of his fellow citizens: Now, therefore, be it:

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate notes with deep sorrow and
2 solemn mourning the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan.

3 *Resolved*, That the Senate extends its heartfelt sym-
4 pathy to the wife and family of President Reagan.

5 *Resolved*, That the Senate commends the former
6 President for his Presidency and its many accomplish-
7 ments.

8 *Resolved*, That the Senate calls on all the people of
9 the United States to reflect on the record of the 40th
10 President of the United States during this national period
11 of remembrance.

12 *Resolved*, That the Secretary communicate these reso-
13 lutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a
14 copy thereof to the family of the former President.

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