

**The original documents are located in Box 42, “11/24/76 - Recorded Message for Retiring Governor Daniel J. Evans of Washington” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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TAPING: TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR DAN EVANS  
NOVEMBER 24, 1976

I AM HONORED TO JOIN IN THIS WELL-DESERVED  
TRIBUTE TO THE OUTSTANDING GOVERNOR OF WASHINGTON,  
AND MY VERY GOOD FRIEND, DAN EVANS●

TWENTY-TWO CENTURIES AGO, THE PHILOSOPHER  
ARISTOTLE SAID "A MAN WHO ASPIRES TO ANY HIGH OFFICE  
SHOULD HAVE THREE QUALIFICATIONS:

"FIRST, HE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE  
CONSTITUTION OF HIS COUNTRY;

"SECOND, HE SHOULD HAVE A SPECIAL APTITUDE FOR  
THE OFFICE HE DESIRES;

"AND THIRD, HE SHOULD HAVE VIRTUE AND JUSTICE  
AS THEY ARE UNDERSTOOD BY HIS FELLOW CITIZENS●"

DAN EVANS HAS MET ALL THOSE TESTS AND PROVED ONCE AGAIN THE SIMPLE WISDOM OF THOSE ANCIENT WORDS●

FOR THE PAST TWELVE YEARS, DAN EVANS HAS SERVED THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON WITH SUCH DISTINCTION THAT HE IS INVARIABLY INCLUDED IN ANY LIST OF THE BEST GOVERNORS IN AMERICA -- BY THE PRESS, IN ACADEMIC CIRCLES, AND AMONG REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS ALIKE●

HIS GOOD JUDGMENT, HIS PROGRESSIVE INSTINCTS, HIS REMARKABLE INTELLIGENCE HAVE ALL CONTRIBUTED TO HIS OWN SUCCESS AND TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL WASHINGTONIANS●

HE IS A STRONG LEADER: BOLD, COURAGEOUS AND IMAGINATIVE●

WORKING WITH DAN EVANS IN BOTH GOVERNMENTAL  
AND POLITICAL COUNCILS HAS BEEN A SPECIAL PLEASURE  
FOR ME. HE HAS EARNED THE ENDURING RESPECT AND  
AFFECTION OF THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON, AND SET AN  
EXAMPLE WHICH PUBLIC SERVANTS ALL OVER AMERICA WOULD  
DO WELL TO FOLLOW.

BETTY AND I JOIN YOU IN WISHING DAN AND NANCY  
EVANS -- AND THEIR THREE FINE SONS DANNY, MARK AND  
BRUCE -- ALL THE BEST IN THEIR FUTURE PURSUITS, AND  
IN CONGRATULATING DAN FOR A JOB HE HAS DONE SO WELL.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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