



Linda A. Smith

Quick Facts

Birth: July 16, 1950
LaJunta, Colorado

Death:

Occupation: Tax Consultant

Party Affiliation: Republican

Years served: 1983-87 (H)
1987-95 (S)

Office: Representative, Senator, US
Representative

District: 18 (Clark, Cowlitz County) 1983
18 (Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis Counties) 1992

Personal:

- Resides in Vancouver
- Managed seven tax preparation offices for H&R Block
- Married with 2 children
- Earned Oregon State Tax Consultants license in 1981
- In November of 1998 Linda founded Shared Hope International, an organization that helps rescue, and gives shelter and support to victims of human trafficking. The office headquarters is located in Vancouver, WA with "safe houses" located all over the world.

Education:

- Studied tax law and planning

Community Service:

- Valley Work Center for the Handicapped, board member

Affiliations:

- Clark County Visitor's & Convention Bureau
- Vancouver Chamber of Commerce
- Glad Tidings Church, head of Deaconess Board

Awards:

- Friend of the Taxpayer award, The Washington Conservative Union (1990)
- 1990 Guardian of Small Business, National Federation of Independent Business

Legislative & State Service:

- Elected November 1983 to serve for Alan Thompson who was appointed to the Senate.
- Resigned December 4 1987 because she was elected to the Senate.
- Resigned from the Senate on January 2, 1995 because she was elected to Congress.

- Sponsored Initiative to the people 601 in 1993. “Shall state expenditures be limited by inflation rates and population growth, and taxes exceeding the limit be subject to referendum?” It passed by 51.2% of the vote.

Committees: (1985) Education; Trade and Economic Development; Ways and Means (1987) Education; Local Government, ranking minority member; Ways and Means (Subcommittee on Appropriations) (1989) Children and Family Services, chair; Healthcare and Corrections, vice-chair; Ways and Means (1991) Children and Family Services, vice-chair; Health and Long Term Care, vice-chair; Rules; Ways and Means (1993) Health and Human Services; Natural Resources; Rules; Ways and Means

Leadership, Positions & Appointments:

- Majority Assistant Whip (1989, 1991)
- Caucus Vice Chair (1993)
- Named to the Human Services Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures in 1991.
- In 1994 she made history as the first successful write-in candidate in state history, and then won the general election with 51 percent of the vote to receive a U.S. House seat
- Served as U.S. Representative from 1994-98
- Ran for U.S. Senate, position 1 in 1998. Lost to Patty Murray in the general election
- Strong supporter and fighter for campaign finance reform. Her campaigns were run with the help of grass roots supporters.

Sources:

- “Linda Smith keeps Demos off balance,” by Don Hamilton, The Oregonian, February 12, 1991
- “Conservative dominates key family panel,” by Sibella Connor, The Herald, February 13, 1989
- “A new reform plan for costly campaigning,” by Debra Carlton, The Seattle P.I., January 27, 1988
- “State panel clears Smith of campaign wrongdoing,” by Walter Hatch, Seattle Times, November 18, 1987