# PUBLIC SERVICE & GOVERNMENT

LEADERSHIP IN PUBLIC SERVICE

A chance opportunity to introduce Ronald Reagan ignited an old interest in politics that led Curb to the Governor's office and beyond.

Mike Curb's interest in politics started when he was a young boy in 1952, living in Compton, California. His grand-mother encouraged him to watch the presidential nominating conventions on television. During the Republican convention, everyone thought that Senator Robert Taft was going to be the nominee, but General Dwight Eisenhower was nominated and

eventually was elected president. His opponent was Senator Adlai Stevenson, who had been nominated by the Democratic convention.

Mike never was a part of any Republican club or group in high school or college. His grandmother was a Democrat and his mother was a Republican. As an FBI agent, his father was not allowed to show his support for either political party.

"My maternal grandmother never

liked Republicans, but she loved Ronald Reagan," Mike remembers. "My mother, a Republican, also loved Reagan, which made things interesting because they generally never agreed on anything politically."

Curb's grandmother was a Mexican-American from Texas, and his mother's father was a soldier and later a YMCA director

from Kentucky and Pennsylvania – a very staunch Republican. They canceled each other out when they voted. Mike's mother agreed with her father politically, but Mike's Democratic grandmother was the driving force in teaching him about Big Tent politics, the Reagan philosophy of including as many people from all walks of life as possible.

Mike Curb was one of the few people who had the opportunity to be involved in a significant way in all



 ${\it Mike\ Curb's\ grand mother,\ Eloisa\ Salazar\ Stout}$ 

three of Ronald Reagan's presidential campaigns. During the 1976 campaign, Mike was the California campaign co-chairman and was then elected to the Republican National Committee. In 1980, Curb and Jack Kemp were the national co-chairmen of Reagan's successful campaign for president. In 1982, after Mike completed his term as lieutenant governor and acting governor, Reagan called Mike and thanked him for helping to unite the party before asking him to work in his administration.

Mike agreed, provided it was a position where he was allowed to keep his private business; he did not want to take a government job that restricted his activities as a businessman or forced him to sell his businesses. Curb accepted the position of chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee, charged with raising \$100 million – the largest amount ever raised for a re-election campaign at the time.

Curb was just as much a neophyte when he entered government service as he was when he started in the music business, and Ronald Reagan became an important mentor. He took a liking to Mike when the two first met under very unusual circumstances. It was 1974, at an event for Junior Achievement in Los Angeles, as Reagan's term as governor of

California was coming to an end.

"I attended the Junior Achievement event because my father had suggested that I should go into public service," Mike says. "MGM Records had been sold and in order to receive my share of the payment as a co-owner of the company, I had agreed not to be active in the record business for a period of time.

"I was very close to my father, so when he suggested that I should go into public service, I asked him what he meant by that," Mike says. "He told me that a lot of young people might be interested in hearing the story of how I started a small, independent label that managed to get distribution from Capitol, a major label. I had started as an artist on Mercury and Warner-Reprise and then became the president of MGM and Verve, all in a period of approximately 10 years. He asked, "Why not talk about that and encourage those young people to go to college, or junior college, or a trade school, or go out on their own and become an entrepreneur?' I took my father's advice, and I was invited by Junior Achievement to speak at this event. At that time, I had never given any sort of public speech or taken a public speaking course."

Ronald Reagan was the featured speaker at the event. Mike

#### MIKE CURB ELECTED LT. GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA IN 1978

had always admired and respected him because he was from the entertainment industry and yet had the ability to lead the state of California as governor. He looked up to Ronald Reagan in the same way that he looked up to his father.

At the Junior Achievement luncheon, Mike gave his first speech and, as he spoke, someone handed him a note saying that the person scheduled to introduce Ronald Reagan was stuck in traffic and asked if he would introduce him.

"I did not have a prepared introduction, but I knew about his career as an actor and that he had been a General Electric spokesperson and I heard him give speeches for the 1964 election between President Lyndon Johnson and Barry Goldwater," Mike says. "Everyone was searching for what America would become and, although I was just a teenager at the time, I remember that I had been inspired and motivated by his speech."

After Reagan's remarks, Mike had the opportunity to sit with him at lunch, where Reagan mentioned that he had seen the "Candy Man" event with Sammy Davis Jr. and Richard Nixon that Curb had arranged at the 1972 Republican convention. He told Mike that he would love to have some entertainers involved in his 1976 campaign for president.



Mike with President Ronald Reagan

To be in charge of entertainment in a political campaign is quite a job; not all entertainers support Republicans and it seemed that for every 10 entertainers Mike contacted there were nine who were Democrats. However, there was just something about Reagan that Mike really liked and admired.

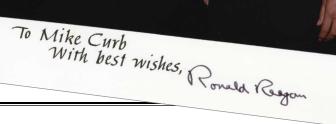
"Reagan talked to me almost like a son at that time," he says. "He knew that I was a political neophyte, so he suggested a number of things that I should read and put me on a mailing list so I received copies of all of the speeches that he made."

Although Mike was only 29 years old, Ronald Reagan thought Curb had potential in government service. Mike's



 $Courtemanche, future\ California\ Governor\ George\ Deukmejian\ and\ Bob\ Tuttle, future$  $Ambassador\,to\,Great\,Britain$ 

grandmother was Mexican-American. She put herself through college and studied and loved American history and believed that everyone who benefitted from being an American citizen should serve the country in some way. She believed that service in the military, the Peace Corps or some other form of public service was important. Mike was able to tell her that he had accepted the position with Ronald Reagan's campaign for president shortly before she died.





Mike's political career would not have been possible  $without \ the \ support \ and \ friendship \ of \ General$ William Lyon and Willa Dean. General Lyon served as co-chairman of Curb's political campaign.



Secretary of State Henry Kissinger with Mike Curb



Robert K. Lifton and Loretta played a major role in Mike's decision to run for office. Bob was a real mentor to Mike, as well as a close friend.



Mike and Linda with Walter and Speedy Beran. Beran was former co-chairman of Ernst & Young and co-chairman of Curb's political campaign

Reagan had found himself going from a leading candidate virtually unopposed for the Republican nomination – to running against Gerald Ford, the sitting president. Most Republicans gave their support to President Ford, including the person who was supposed to be his state chairman in California. Instead, Curb was named the state chairman.

Campaign manager Lyn Nofziger stated in his memoirs, "I don't know to this day if Ronald Reagan realizes what he owes Joe Rodgers, Jimmy Lyon and Mike Curb. Without those three, his 1976 campaign would have collapsed. He never would have had the opportunity to capture the hearts and souls of the rank-and-file of the Republican party during the 1976 National Convention. And without their support, there is little chance that he would have run for president in 1980."

The 1976 Republican National Convention was in Kansas City, and the Republicans had two great candidates, Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan, from which to choose. Gerald Ford had enough delegates to win the nomination, but many believed that Ronald

Reagan had the hearts of the delegates. He could have most certainly been the nominee for vice president, but he did not want that.

Mike had the opportunity to spend quality time with Ronald Reagan and seemed to communicate well with him during his first presidential campaign. While he did not win the Republican nomination in 1976, he carried California and, since Curb was his state chairman, he was the leader of the California delegation to the national convention and was elected to be the Republican national



Mike Curb with President Gerald Ford

The former heads of two of Theodore E. Cummings anthe most important nations in the free world will be re-united when the Jewish Na-tional Fund welcomes Ger-ald R. Ford and Yitzhak Rabin to the gale Column ald R. Ford and Yitzhak to the establishment of the Rabin to the gala Salute to Mike Curb Nachlah in

Ford and Rabin were in constant communication when they both served as heads of their respective governments during the mid-dle 1970s. Now Ford is general chairman and guest speaker at the Curb testimonial, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Dinner Chairman

nounced recently that Prime Minister Rabin will fly to Los Angeles to deliver a special,

A native of Jerusalem, Rabin entered his country's service while he was still a teenager. He was a soldier in Israel's defense force for 27 years, retiring with the supreme rank of Chief of the General Staff shortly after the 1967 Six Day War. He was Ambassador to the U.S.



Mike Curb in 1980, serving as Acting Governor of California

committeeman.

After the convention, Curb became co-chairman of the Ford Presidential campaign in California – at Reagan's request – because it was important that California showed unity for the Republican nominee. Mike was only 31 years old at the time.

During the campaign, Curb's friend Senator Bill Brock was elected national chairman of the Republican Party. In 1977, Brock named Mike to the Executive Committee of the

Republican National Committee, a smaller group which oversees the national party. At that time, he was the youngest person to ever serve in that position.

During the Democratic primaries in 1976, California Governor Jerry Brown — who had been elected in 1974 — also ran for the nomination but lost to Carter. It seemed obvious to everyone that Brown would try to capture the Democratic nomination for president again in 1980, because he was traveling all over California as well as outside the state opposing Ronald Reagan's record as governor. Reagan had defeated Brown's father, Pat Brown, in the 1966 California gubernatorial election.

Ronald Reagan invited Curb to a courtesy lunch to let him know his plans for the future. He told Mike, "I wish someone like you were running for office, because the only way to beat Jerry Brown is to get someone younger than him to run against him." Mike replied that he did not believe he was prepared at that time to run for governor, and that other Republicans had expressed interest.

At the end of that lunch, Reagan and Mike discussed the

possibility of Curb running for lieutenant governor of California



 $\label{limited} \emph{Linda and Mike Curb campaigning for lieutenant governor in East Los Angeles. Mike was grand marshal of the Cinco de Mayo parade.}$ 

because when the governor is out of the state, the lieutenant governor becomes acting governor. Reagan said a Republican as lieutenant governor would be a good incentive for Jerry Brown to stay in California, instead of traveling around the country criticizing Reagan's record as governor. "When he said this to me he was smiling," Mike says. "So I didn't really know if he was serious or not."

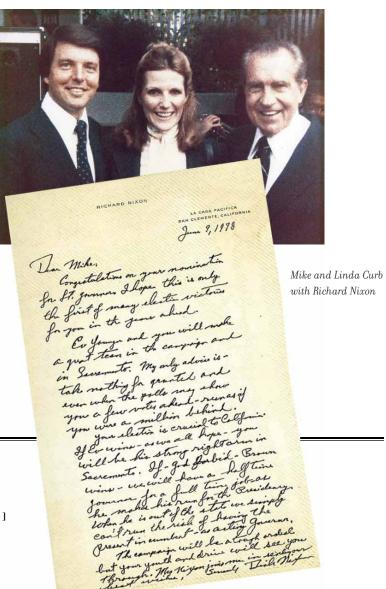
About a month later, Ken Rietz called and invited Mike to dinner and told him he had spoken with some people connected with Reagan – Lyn Nofziger, Mike Deaver and a few others – who thought Mike should run for lieutenant governor. He offered to introduce Mike to the top fundraisers aligned with Reagan and brief him on the top issues of the state.

Rietz came back with a list of people who would be willing to help if he ran for lieutenant governor, and it was virtually all of the people on Reagan's list of supporters — people like John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart, actors who were close with Ronald Reagan. In addition, Mike had developed a relationship with Holmes and Bob Tuttle, General William Lyon and Willa Dean Lyon, David Murdock, Burt and Jane Boeckman, Margaret Brock, Jolly and Patty Gissell and Ted Cummings, who were the top fundraisers in the entire state of California.

Mike had another meeting with Ronald Reagan, who told

him, "You should do this. If you are smart enough to start and run a successful business, then you are smart enough to learn these issues." Curb said "Reagan's staff arranged for me to be briefed by great members of the Reagan administration, including Ed Meece, William French Smith, Vern Orr, Bill Clark and Lyn Nofziger."

In 1978, Curb won the Republican nomination and later was elected lieutenant governor by defeating Jerry Brown's incumbent lieutenant governor. Brown was re-elected governor, which





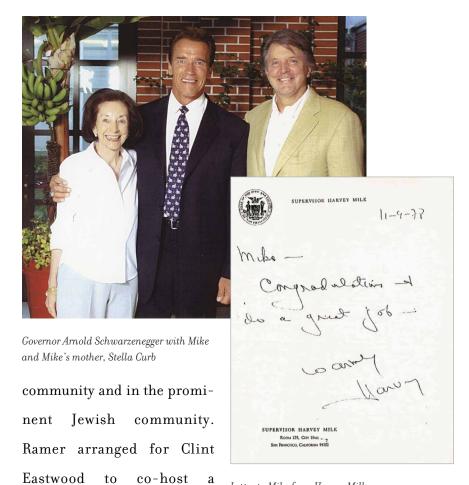
Sinatra contributes to Curb

Mike Curb with Frank Sinatra

meant that – for the first time in modern history – a Democrat was governor while a Republican was lieutenant governor.

"I cannot tell you definitively how or why I won that election, but I can tell you that without the support of Ronald Reagan, who did television commercials for me or those involved in his campaign who encouraged and helped me, I would not have been elected lieutenant governor," Curb says. "Nor would I have ever had the opportunity to serve as acting governor of the largest state in the Union."

Curb stated, "As I reflect back about my election over 30 years ago, I realize that I was the last elected Republican lieutenant governor in the State of California. In addition to Ronald Reagan's support, I also was able to build a broad coalition of people from all walks of life that reflected the beautiful diversity of California. My sister, Carole, made television commercials, speaking in Spanish that she had learned from our grandmother. My mentor, Eddie Ray, helped organize African American supporters. Other mentors and friends of mine in the entertainment community, such as Robert and Loretta Lifton, Jerry Weintraub, Mo Ostin, Joe Smith, David Geffen and California attorney Bruce Ramer helped me build support in the entertainment



co-host Letter to Mike from Harvey Milk

was able to receive support from former San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk because of the fact that I was working with him on an important civil rights ballot initiative that was being voted on at the same time I was running for office. I didn't realize how historic that was until the recent Academy Award-winning movie about Milk's life, where Sean Penn won the Academy Award and actual footage of me was included near the end of the movie. It's important today that elected officials recognize that once they are elected they need to represent all the people, whether they voted for

fundraising event for me. I

#### MIKE CURB SERVING AS ACTING GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Court Affirms

Curb's Power as Acting Governor

By Eugene Robinson

In a decision with major implications for Governor Brown's presidential bid and his tempestuous relationship with Lieutenant Governor Mike Curb, the California Supreme Court ruled yesterday that when the governor is out of state, the lieutenant governor is free to exercise all powers of the chief executive.

Rob A Home, Go To Jail Bill.



MIKE CURB

A significant victory

The Brown administration did not like the fact that Curb was filling that role and filed litigation to bar him from being acting governor as provided in California's constitution.

They felt that the governor's chief of staff, Gray Davis
(who later became governor and was then recalled in
an election that led to Arnold Schwarzenegger
becoming governor), should serve in that role when
the governor was out of state.

The case went all the way to the California Supreme Court, and on the 100th anniversary of the adoption of California's 1879 Amended Constitution, the Supreme Court confirmed that the lieutenant governor became the

acting governor of California when the governor was out of state. That announcement on

Mike Curb serving as Acting Governor

(Governor Jerry Brown) was out of state extensively and the Supreme Court of California ruled that Curb had the responsibility of Acting Governor while the Governor was out of state. While Curb was Acting Governor, he appointed the agriculture commissioner, economic development commission members, judges and others that were important. Curb also signed important bills, including the

Because California is prone to natural disasters like forest fires, earthquakes, and mudslides, Curb was constantly dealing with emergencies. During that time, there were also threatened prison guard and rapid-transit district strikes, which Curb helped resolve.



Acting Governor Curb working with the National Guard during the California floods







#### PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER



Linda and Mike Curb with President Jimmy Carter at The Carter Center in Plains, Georgia in 2018.

June 22, 2018

To Linda and Mike Curb

I am pleased that you both have found a rewarding life after elected office. Rosalynn and I have enjoyed our years after the White House more than those we spent there. We both appreciate your gift and are excited about ing program opportunities with you and your found pe Phil will continue keeping you up to date.

atulations on your successful business caree nent to give back to the community.

With our warm best wishes,

Jimmy Carte

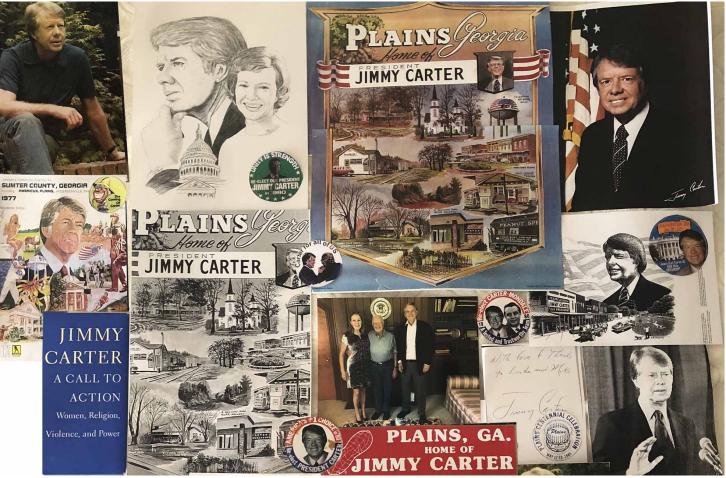
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Curb Nashville, Tennessee



## Carter, Curb declare flood area emergency

"During the time that I served as Acting Governor of California I worked positively with President Carter and his staff on various matters including important emergency declarations, health and the importance of caring for everyone. Jimmy Carter, in addition to his achievements as President has taught all of us who have served in government the responsibility and the possibility of doing even more after returning to private life."





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role in state affairs

#### PUBLIC SERVICE & GOVERNMENT

# Curb's powers upheld by state Supreme He just may spread out a bit Curb likes governor's chair Curb: I'm concerned about state's poor Seeks to increase benefits for 'truly needy' Curb Runs California LT. GOV. MIKE CURB Curb's difference Governor Takes gone far beyon Governor Takes Republican has proper Off For Liberia, or was Curb Uncurbed Out Curb Uncurbed By LNE FREMSTAD By LNE FREMSTAD By Capitol Bureau Chief By Capitol Bureau Chief Washed By Capitol Bureau Chief By Chief Capitol Repc Acting Gov. Mike Curb and Prop. 13 co-author Paul Gann ask support for Gann's initiative limiting government spending. **Court Affirms Curb's Power as Acting Governor** BROWN CHIDES REPORTERS — Gov. Ed-mund G. Brown Jr., left, at a press conference in Los Angeles Thursday with Lt. Gov. Misc Cont thides reporters in an answer to a question about But while the court left Brown a way to conduct his out-of-state campaigning and still return in time to undo any judicial appointments Curb might make, the unanimous decision left no doubt that the lieutenant governor has the right to exercise all the powers of the executive in the governor's absence. who will be in charge of the state when he leave for a trip. His response was, "I'll abide by th will of the people, and when I'm outside the stal the lieutenant governor will be in charge." Brown stresses Curb



MIKE CURB

"As acting governor, the lieu-ant governor is free to act on stever matters he determines Co



1st Hispanic chairman GOP names Del Junco

Mike Curb worked closely with his

friend Ambassador John Gavin, the

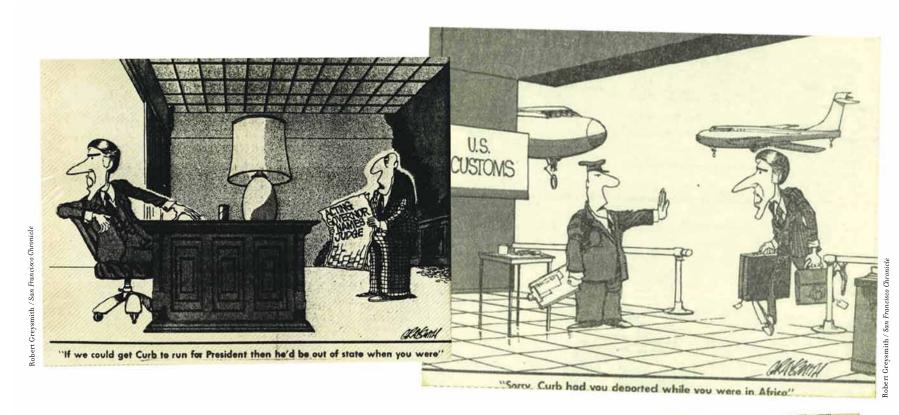
Curb tours
United States Ambassador to Mexico.

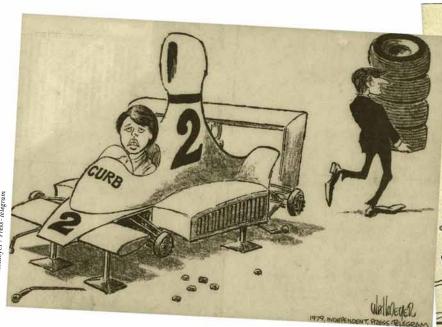
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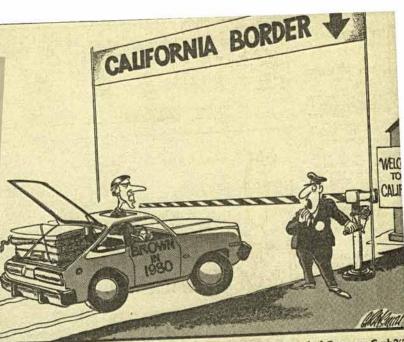
Mike with California Lieutenant  $Governor\,Abel\,Maldonado$ 



Acting Governor Mike Curb with Dodgers star Fernando Valenzuela, Manager Tommy Lasorda and Dodgers owner Peter O'Malley. Valenzuela made appearances with Mike Curb in the Mexican American community during the time that he changed the culture of baseball forever by pitching eight consecutive victories, a shutout, winning the Cy Young Award, the Silver Slugger Award and the 1981 World Series with Acting Governor Curb in attendance.







"Brown . . . Brown? The name has a familiar ring. Are you a friend of Governor Curb?"

#### CHAIRMAN/NATIONAL LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION



California Lt. Governor
Mike Curb and 21 other
lieutenant governors from
around the country with
President Ronald Reagan.
Curb was elected chairman of the National
Conference of Lieutenant
Governors from both
political parties.

34 years after serving as Chairman of the National Conference of Lieutenant Governors, Mike Curb was honored at the 50th anniversary of the National Lieutenant Governors Association in Chicago in 2012. Pictured with Mike Curb are new Chairman and Lt. Gov. Todd Lamb of Oklahoma, current Chairman and Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy of Nebraska and Julia Hurst, Executive Director of the National Lieutenant Governors Association.





Ursula and Ken Rietz
with Mike and Linda
Curb. Rietz was the
campaign manager for
Curb's California campaigns for lieutenant
governor and later for

"What a fantastic life of accomplishments you have had! I am proud to have played a part in your public career."

-KEN RIETZ



Mike Curb with former California Governor Gray Davis and long-time friend Michael Lloyd. While Curb was Acting Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Gray Davis was Chief of Staff for Governor Brown.



Mike and Linda Curb with statewide Volunteer co-chairpersons of Curb's campaign for Lt. Governor. Pictured are Virginia Rice, Linda and Mike Curb, Trudy McDonald, and California philanthropist, Margaret Brock.

December 26, 1979 created front page stories not only in California, but in other states as well.

Theodore B. Olson represented Curb on this successful ruling. "That ruling reflected not just the power, but the responsibility of the lieutenant governor of California," Curb says. "Although it was a clear-cut case of constitutional law, my own personal experience also led me to real-



ize the importance of the role of acting governor in certain situations." Because of the precedent this set in the largest state, Curb was elected chairman of the National Conference of Lieutenant Governors, which represented the Democratic and Republican lieutenant governors of all the states.

In 1981, Curb ran in the Republican primary for the nomination for governor of California, however, he was narrowly defeated by George Deukmejian. The election was very close —



Governor Charles Robb of Virginia and Mike Curb. When Robb was elected Governor he nominated Mike Curb to be his successor as Chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Association.



Lt. Governor Terry Branstad (now Governor of Iowa) and his wife Christine with Linda and Mike Curb and their daughter Courtney at the Curb ranch while Curb was Chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Association.

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### RONALD REAGAN APPOINTS MIKE CURB NATIONAL CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE 1980 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

Dieutenant Governor and Mrs. Mike Eurb
cordially invite you to a
Cocktail Reception
at their home
to benefit the
Reagan for President Committee

Tuesday, May twenty-ninth
nineteen hundred and seventy-nine
1820 Carla Ridge Drive
Beverly Hills, California

R. S. V. D.
550-6262

Telegram Telegram

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PMS THE HONORABLE MIKE CURB LT GOVERNOR STATE OF CALIFORNIA CARE MR

FRED GOTTFURCHT, DLR, DLR

9454 WILSHIRE BLVD

BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212

DEAR MIKE, CONGRATULATIONS ON THE LAUNCHING OF YOUR CAMPAIGN FOR GOVERNOR OF THE GREAT STATE OF CALIFORNIA. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT NANCY AND I WISH WE COULD BE WITH YOU AND KNOW YOU WILL BE A FINE CANDIDATE TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA. PLEASE EXTEND OUR WARM PERSONAL REGARDS TO LINDA AND TO ALL WHO ARE JOINING YOU THERE AT THIS SALUTE TO MIKE CURB. PLEASE KNOW, ALSO, MIKE, HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE FOR THE WONDERFUL JOR YOU DID AS NATIONAL VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMPAIGN. SINCERELY

RONALD REAGAN

1201 (R5-69)

them or not."

Curb took his job as lieutenant governor very seriously, and when Jerry Brown decided to run for president in 1980, he Curb led in every poll leading up to the election — and he could have criticized his opponent as some of his supporters suggested. Instead, he had learned a valuable lesson about uniting the party from Ronald Reagan after the 1976 presidential campaign, and so he endorsed and actively supported Deukmejian during his campaign against the Democratic opponent.

"Throughout that primary and general election, I remembered the lessons that Ronald Reagan had taught me, that sometimes the best, most defining moments of your life are not when you win, but when you lose," Mike remembers. "It all depends on how you lose; anyone knows how to act when you win, but how we act when we lose defines us and our character."

President Reagan appointed Curb as chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee, and the Curb family



After serving as National Co- Chairman of President Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign, Curb chaired the inaugural anniversary celebration as Chairman of the National Finance Committee



 ${\it Mike and Linda with President Donald J. Trump}$ 

moved to Washington, D.C., where Mike had the opportunity to do something positive for the president. Both of Mike and Linda's daughters were born while Mike was acting governor.

Ronald Reagan was very inclusive and always in favor of bringing people in — what he called "the big tent." He was very tolerant of opposing positions as long as he wasn't forced to change his position. Even if someone questioned his position,

he was willing to listen to their view. Reagan was at a point in his life where his beliefs and philosophies were pretty well locked in, and as the 1984 election approached, it appeared that the American people shared his views.

Mike was involved in a brainstorming session on what the president should do on the Fourth of July in 1984, the year

Reagan was running for re-election. Curb was in the meeting as the head of the National Finance Committee, and Reagan's team wanted the president to do an event that might have a fundraising angle. The campaign people had decided that he should not speak anywhere else, because he was going to make an appearance in Washington D.C. on the importance of Independence Day.

They thought he should be visible, but not in a speaking role, so Mike suggested the NASCAR race at Daytona on July 4. Several people in the room looked at him like he was crazy. Mike says. "After I suggested this idea as a possibility, the president got excited and said he used to announce auto races

in Des Moines, Iowa. Since it looked like the president liked this idea, everybody quickly switched their position and began talking about it."

Curb was asked to pursue the idea and called Bill France Jr., the head of NASCAR. Bill France's father founded NASCAR, but Bill France Jr. was the genius who made it a national sport. France readily agreed and joined Curb in Washington, D.C., to work out the details.

A car that Mike owned, number 43, driven by Richard Petty, was in that race. Petty had won more races than any other NASCAR driver and, going into the Daytona race, had already achieved 199 wins.

Ronald Reagan came to Daytona to watch that race - he flew in on Air Force One and made a dramatic landing after the race had started. He even announced some of the race over the P.A. system. It was an historic day for the Presidency, the first time a sitting president had ever been to a NASCAR race. Richard Petty drove Mike Curb's car to his 200th win, a defin-



President Reagan and Mike Curb congratulate Richard Petty on his monumental 200th win.

been selected as "Master-Card's Greatest Moment in NASCAR History" in a season-long vote by more A late caution in the July 4, 1984, Firecracker 400 at Daytona International Speedway set up a race to the yellow flag between Petty and Cale Yarbor-

and final victory as a

Winston Cup driver has

ough. Petty nipped Yarborough at the finish line by about a foot and then ran the final two laps under caution to win the event as President Reagan watched the historic finish from one of the track-

"I'm glad the fans still remember that," Petty said. "I remember it, because it was the last thing I done.

no.) 201 never came until this year, but Bobby (Hamilton) was driving then."

Actually, Petty's 199th and 200th wins came in a car owned by former California lieutenant governor Mike Curb. Petty left Petty Enterprises at the end of the 1983 season and didn't return to the family-owned business as its driver until 1986.

"It was just a situation where it came down to the very last lap," Petty said of the '84 race, "This is what NASCAR is about. We run 400 miles, and I beat somebody by one foot. I'm glad the fans got just as excited as Richard Petty did."

More than 250 NASCAR media members and officials selected seven moments from a list of 50, which were then voted on by fans through on-site balloting at Winston Cup races, at Food Lion grocery stores and through NASCAR event programs.

Finishing behind Petty's 200th win were the 1994 Brickyard 400 and the

### **Curb Lands Top GOP Job**

To Mike - From A.F.II - with sincere appreciation for your leadurling of the GOP. Sincerly, Cun Buch

Mike and Linda with Barbara and President George Bush

The building in Washington DC where Curb worked after being appointed Chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee by President Ronald Reagan. Curb particularly enjoyed working closely with George Bush during that time.



Curb and Bush aboard Air Force Two

ance chairman this party ha ad—and that's saying a lo se we've had some goo said RNC Chairman Frank.

President George Bush and Curb at the White House



President and Mrs. Reagan, Vice President and Mrs. Bush pictured  $with \ RNFC \ Chairman \ Mike \ Curb, \ National \ Party \ Chairman \ and \ U.S.$ Senator Paul Laxalt and RNC Chairman Frank Fahrenkopf

Mike also had the opportunity to fly with George Bush on Air Force Two to Daytona to help introduce him to the auto racing community while he was vice presi-

dent. He was considering running for president and at one point during the flight he said to Mike, "It's too bad you didn't win that very close election for governor of California; because of the size of that state and your age, you would have been an excellent vice presidential candidate." At the time Mike thought Bush was just being nice to him like he was to everyone; Bush went on to receive the Republican nomination

"I am very proud of you and your success. You have come a long way since we traipsed down the highways of California."

-SENATOR ORRIN HATCH, PRESIDENT PRO TEM, UNITED STATES SENATE

Mike with Senator John Thune of South Dakota who has worked closely with the music industry.

Mike with Senator Orrin Hatch of Utah. Hatch is a songwriter and close friend of Mike's going back to when they traveled through California when Curb was running for public office in California. In 2015, Senator Hatch became President Pro Tem of the United States Senate.

for president and he picked Dan Quayle, who was exactly Curb's age, as his running mate.

"I realized what possibly could have happened and how thankful I was to have had the opportunity to participate in the American political system and to work with great men such as Ronald Reagan and George Bush," says Curb.

After Reagan and Bush were re-elected in 1984, Curb and his family moved back to California because it was time for Curb's daughters to start school.



#### PRESIDENT REAGAN APPOINTS MIKE CURB CHAIRMAN OF THE RNFC



To Mile - With Warmest Regard or Friendship - Senienly Ran

ing moment in the history of NASCAR. It was an historic moment for Richard Petty and Ronald Reagan and one of the greatest moments of Mike Curb's life.

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"When I returned from North Vietnam with my fellow POWs, Mike and Linda Curb were gracious enough to welcome us in their home. I will never forget that."

-JOHN MCCAIN, U.S. SENATOR & CHAIRMAN,

receive the Republican nomination for president and he picked Dan Quayle, who was exactly Curb's age, as his running mate.

"I realized what possibly could have happened and how thankful I was to have had the opportunity to participate in the American political system and to work with great men such as Ronald Reagan and George Bush," says Curb.

After Reagan and Bush were re-elected in 1984, Curb and his family moved back to California because it was time for Curb's daughters to start school. Upon Reagan's death, Mike and Linda Curb made a list of all of the things in their lives that would not have happened without Ronald Reagan – state chairman in 1976, national committeeman from California in 1977, and, later, a position on the National Executive Committee. He encouraged Mike to run for lieutenant governor and made television commercials supporting him. He encouraged and supported Mike as acting governor, appointed him co-chairman of his 1980 presidential campaign and chairman of the Program Committee for the national convention in 1980. Reagan even asked Mike to compose the theme song for the 1980 conven-





Top: Senator John McCain with Linda and Mike Curb Bottom: Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Mike receiving their honorary degrees at Fisk University.

"Mike was Lt. Governor when I first started getting involved in California government. I'm very honored to be here with Mike because it's about friendship and bringing Democrats and Republicans together."

-NANCY PELOSI, HOUSE MINORITY LEADER & FORMER U.S. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

tion, "Together A New Beginning." Reagan also appointed Curb chairman of the National Finance Committee in 1983 and chairman of the presidential trust for his 1984 re-election. He appointed him to the International Trade Negotiation Committee and to the World USO Board.

"Basically, my entire life in govern-

ment was based on more than 10 opportunities provided by Ronald Reagan," Curb says. "People ask me how I could possibly have been involved in these amazing opportunities. My answer is that I was fortunate enough to meet Ronald Reagan when I was 29 years of age at a charitable event, and he believed these things were possible."

Because Mike was significantly involved in all three Reagan presidential campaigns, the Reagan Museum acknowledged his contributions. In the words of Nancy Reagan, "I know that Ronnie would be especially honored by your generosity, and pleased that your name will be acknowledged in the Campaign/Victory and Inauguration Gallery of his museum. Thank you for sharing my dream."

Later, when the Curb family moved to Tennessee, Mike



was appointed to the Tennessee Board for Economic Growth by Governor Don Sundquist. Later, Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam appointed Curb to become Chairman of the Board of the Commission on Film, Entertainment and Music, commencing in 2012.

Mike continues to be involved as a supporter of candidates on the state and national levels. In the fall of 2008, Curb was gathered with Tennessee leaders like Senator Lamar Alexander, Senator Bill Frist, Senator Bob Corker, Senator Fred Thompson and Governor Bill Haslam at Curb's home, on the eve of the final

presidential debate between Senator John McCain and Senator Barack Obama. The debate would be held that evening at the Curb Event Center on the campus of Belmont University in Nashville.

Senator McCain relayed a story from 35 years prior that captured the spirit of Mike Curb.

"When I returned from North Vietnam with my fellow POWs, Mike and Linda Curb were gracious enough to welcome us in their home," McCain said. "I will never forget that."

That night at dinner in 1974, Mike had told McCain the emotions he'd felt having promised his grandmother that he

#### PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN APPOINTS CURB AS CHAIRMAN OF THE RNFC IN WASHINGTON, DC

To Mike - With Warmest Regard & Friend ship - Serviney Ran

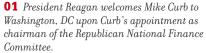












O2 Curb at the White House with President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

**03** Former Attorney General Ed Meese with Mike. Meese was a very important mentor to Curb.

**04** Mike and Linda Curb with President George W. Bush at the White House

**05** Mike with U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander

**06** Mike Curb and Jack Kemp served as cochairmen of Ronald Reagan's 1980 campaign for president of the United States.

**07** Curb welcomes Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown to Tennessee.

**08** Mike Curb with U.S. Senator Bob Corker **09** Rev. Jesse Jackson and Mike Curb. While Curb was Acting Governor of California, he

Curb was Acting Governor of California, he worked with Rev. Jesse Jackson on the Push for Education project

10 Mike with daughters Megan and Courtney in Washington, D.C., when Curb was serving as chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee











"There is no public official in the United States of America who has given more public support for incentive-oriented tax policy than Mike Curb. Someone who is right out front with Prop 13 and also out front among public officials at the state level in the country with the Kemp/Roth Bill which was President Reagan's ultimate tax victory in the Congress."

 $-{\tt CONGRESSMAN\ JACK\ KEMP}$ 

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**01** Belmont board members Dr. Jon Roebuck and Mike Curb in front of the Curb Event Center where the historic presidential debate between President Barack Obama and Senator John McCain took place in 2008 **02** Mike and Linda with former

 $Senate\ Majority\ Leader\ Howard\ Baker$ 

 $at\,the\,Curb's\,home$ 

**03** Florida Governor Rick Scott with Linda and Mike Curb at his 2014 reelection campaign event.

**04** United States Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Mike Curb

**05** President Obama at the Curb

Event Center in Nashville during his historic Presidential Debate in 2008 **06** Senator Fred Thompson at Curb's home

**07** Courtney, Mike and Linda with Senator Lamar Alexander at his cabin in the Smoky Mountains

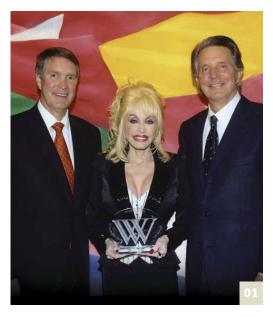
 ${f 08}$  Mike with his Congressman Jim

Cooper

**09** Linda and Mike with Congress member Marsha Blackburn

**10** Tennessee Lieutenant Governor Ron Ramsey with former California Lieutenant Governor Mike Curb

**11** Governor Don and Martha Sundquist at Mike and Linda's home when Mike was appointed to the Tennessee Board for Economic Growth 12 Curb with Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam, who appointed Curb to become Chairman of the Board of the Commission on Film, Entertainment and Music, commencing in 2012





The Curb family moved from Los Angeles to Nashville in 1992. When Mike and Linda were arriving in the driveway of their home for the first time, they received a call from Ted Welch, who is known to be the greatest fundraiser in America for public service and charitable causes. Welch told Mike that President Bush and Governor Lamar Alexander had asked if Mike would attend an event that night. Mike

agreed, and Ted picked Curb up in a car which included another passenger—a young Vanderbilt doctor named Bill Frist. "After spending that evening with President Bush, Ted, Governor Alexander and Dr. Frist, I knew I was going to be much more involved in the Nashville community than I had ever dreamed," Mike said. Dr. Frist became the majority leader of the United States Senate and Lamar became a U.S. senator and caucus chairman. Since then, Mike has become involved in more than 100 public service, educational and charitable causes.







"Mike Curb's work to preserve music history and promote music education has made Nashville a better, richer place."

-MAYOR DAVID BRILEY



"I'm forever grateful for you speaking up for equality."

 $-\mbox{Lisa}$  howe, executive director, nashville glbt chamber of commerce

- **01** Mike with Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and Dolly Parton
- **02** Mike with California assembly leader Carol Hallett and Ted Welch shortly after moving to Nashville. When Mike Curb served as president of the California State Senate, he led the effort to elect Carol Hallett who became the first female
- leader in the history of the legislature. When Mike Curb served as president of the California State Senate, he led the effort to elect Carol Hallett who became the first female leader in the legislature.
- **03** Curb and future Governor George Deukmejian united the California Republican Party after a close election. Here with them are Mike's daugh-



"Thanks for your friendship and your many contributions to our great city."

-KARL DEAN, NASHVILLE MAYOR

- ters, Courtney and Megan, his Finance Chairman Jolly Gissell, and Judge Armand Arabian (whom Curb appointed to the bench).
- **04** Mike with presidential candidate Governor Rick Perry of Texas, holding Mike's grandmother's diploma from San Marcos College
- **05** Mayor David Briley and Mike Curb at the 2018
- ribbon cutting of the Fisk Talley-Curb House..
- **06** Mike Curb receiving the 2011 Nashville Pride Ally Award with Abby Rubenfeld, Lisa Howe and Bryan Stewart
- **07** Mayor Karl Dean with Mike Curb signing the Nashville ordinance preventing discrimination based on sexual orientation

# MIKE CURB SERVES AS THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN FOR RONALD REAGAN'S SUCCESSFUL 1980 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION AND NATIONAL CO-CHAIRMAN OF RONALD REAGAN'S SUCCESSFUL PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

Offical Program

#### REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

Detroit, Michigan

Monday, July 14, 1980 — 11:00 a.m. (EDT)

Music by the Official Convention Orchestra Manny Harmon, Music Director

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN
The Honorable Mike Curb
Lieutenant Governor of the State of California

PROGRAM DIRECTOR Ken Rietz

OFFICIAL CONVENTION ORCHESTRA Manny Harmon, Musical Director

Special Theme Presentation

"TOGETHER ... A NEW BEGINNING"

Susan Anton Vikki Carr Mike Connors Buddy Ebsen Dorothy Hamill Gordie Howe Michael Landon Vicki Lawrence Wayne Newton Donny & Marie Osmond Richard Petty Ginger Rogers Jimmy Stewart Lyle Waggoner Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.

Produced by Syd Vinnedge Production Consultant, Art Fisher Written by Rod Warren

Song: "Together...A New Beginning" by Lieutenant Governor Curb





Curb Gets Reagan Campaign Post
LL Gov. MAY 6475, was samed campaign charmon, said.

11. Giss Mar Carb was same national vice chairman Frisky of th Reapanpresidential campaign to go Curb » key note in the final Wester pish to nominate the GOP front-outer.

The appointment gives Curb, who growning himself for the race for California governor in 1982, yet among the control of the processing of promisence as Regular on make. He is already chairman for the control of the contro

Westernatien."

Curb aide Ken Bitz salf the appointment was made now because the
presidental primary campaign is
moving into the Western States. Curb
sail be making a number of appearance for the former California goverment between new and the June 3 California primary. Reagan is an overwhetening Jasovine of Republicans in
whitening Jasovine of Republicans in
and distant challenger George Buch
has ropluss for California effort.



### 32 YEARS AFTER SERVING AS PROGRAM CHAIRMAN FOR RONALD REAGAN'S SUCCESSFUL 1980 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, LINDA AND MIKE CURB HOSTED THE TENNESSEE

- **01** Mike Curb introducing Tennessee Senator Bill Brock at the 1980 Republican Convention in Detroit where Brock served as chairman and Curb served as Program Chairman of the Convention.
- **02** Mike Curb introducing Ronald Reagan prior to his nomination at the 1980 Republican Convention in Detroit. In addition, Curb served as National Co-Chairman of Reagan's successful presidential campaign.
- **03** Tennessee Governor Haslam, Mike Curb and Tennessee Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey
- **04** Tennessee Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris and Mike Curb
- **05** Mike Curb addresses the Tennessee Delegation at the 2012 Republican National Convention in Tampa, Florida. Far right is performer Ayla Brown, daughter of Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown
- **06** Mike Curb and Presidential nominee Mitt Romney
- **07** Curb recording artist Rodney Atkins performed at the 2012 Republican National Convention, head-





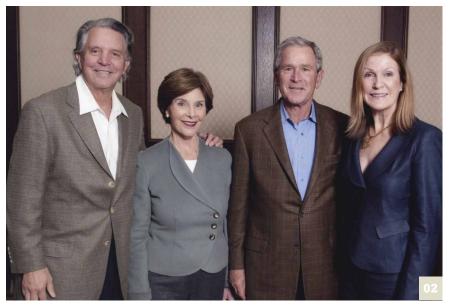


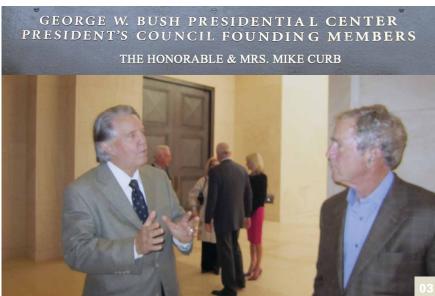


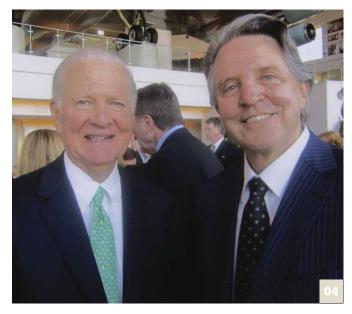


# COMMEMORATION OF THE GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM WHERE CURB IS A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL











- **01** Mike Curb at the Grand Opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum with five Presidents in attendance
- **02** President and Mrs. Bush gave Mike and Linda Curb a personal tour of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum which opened in 2013, when Linda and Mike became members of the President's Council.
- **03** President George W. Bush gave Mike a personal tour of his new Library and Museum
- **04** Former Secretary of State serving President George Bush and President Reagan's Chief of Staff James Baker with Mike Curb
- **05** Mike Curb and Don Evans, Chairman of the George W. Bush Foundation Board of Directors and former Secretary of Commerce

#### CELEBRATING THE RONALD REAGAN CENTENNIAL





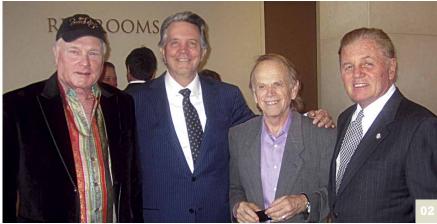






"You have had a fabulous life and career."

-ROBERT HOLMES TUTTLE, FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED KINGDOM







- **01** Mike Curb and Robert Holmes Tuttle at the Virginia and Holmes Tuttle Colonnade
- **02** The Beach Boys Mike Love, Al Jardine and Bruce Johnston with Mike Curb
- **03** President of the Reagan Library Fred Ryan, Mike Curb and Director John Heubush
- $\textbf{04} \ \textit{Linda and Mike with a section of the Berlin Wall}$
- **05** Tom Selleck and Mike Curb graduated from high school together





- **06** Stewart McLaurin presenting Curb with the centennial statue of Reagan created by Chas Fagan
- **07** Former L.A. Dodgers owner Peter O'Malley, Mike, Congressman David Drier and Senator John Danforth
- $\textbf{08} \ \textit{Congressman Dan Lungren with Mike}$
- **09** Ambassador Glen Holden and Mike Curb
- **10** Formal Presidential candidate and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista with Mike Curb





# THE CURB FOUNDATION HELPS BUILD THE VICTORY ROOM AT THE RONALD REAGAN LIBRARY CELEBRATING THE RONALD REAGAN CENTENNIAL







#### THE RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM



#### OFFICE OF NANCY REAGAN

October 4, 2011

#### Dear Mike,

As Ronnie's Centennial year draws to a close, I want to thank you for everything you have done all year long to help us celebrate. Your artists honored Ronnie by performing at his birthday celebration at the Reagan Library and at Major League Baseball games across the country. You brought the Reagan Centennial to the auto racing world through the NASCAR exhibit at the Library, the winning car in the Indianapolis 500, and a Centennial car at the upcoming NASCAR race in Kansas.

And you're still not done. I hear you are releasing a new CD with songs from some of your best artists as a Centennial tribute to Ronnie. All of this is in addition to your generous support of the Reagan Library Museum renovation project.

You have been a dear friend and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generosity and kindness over the years. I hope to see you at the Library sometime soon.

Warmly,

Uoucy

The Honorable Michael Curb 48 Music Square East Nashville, Tennessee 37203

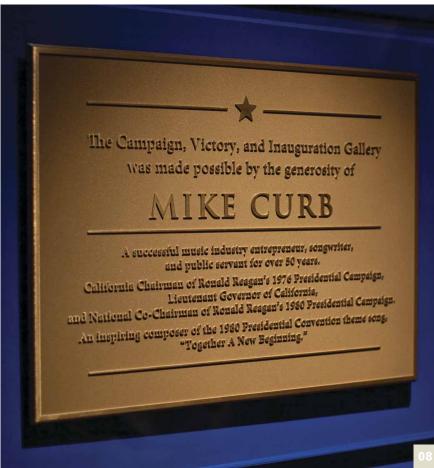
06



- **01** Mike Curb giving a speech at the Ronald Reagan Centennial Celebration
- **02** Members of the Curb family—Carole, Mike, Stella, Linda, Courtney and Taylor—in front of Air Force One
- **03** The official seal of the Centennial Celebration
- **04** The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum.
- **05** Carole, Mike, Stella, Linda and Stewart McLaurin at the Reagan Museum auto racing display with Curb's 2011 Indianapolis 500 win-

ning car. The Curb-owned Daytona winning car of Richard Petty is also pictured.

- **06** Nancy Reagan thanks Mike Curb for playing a leadership role in Ronald Reagan's Centennial Celebration and the restoration of the Library and Museum
- **07** Tim Dugger, John Heubush, Mike, Austin Dillon and Stewart McLaurin unveiling the Centennial NASCAR owned by Mike Curb and Richard Childress (Dugger had just introduced his record "God For A Day.")



### 2017 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION





























#### MIKE CURB'S 50-YEAR PUBLIC SERVICE LEGACY





















- **06** Inauguration crowd
- **07** Beach Boys' Mike Love with Mike at the Inaugural Ball which Curb helped arrange.
- **08** *Mike with the Beach Boys (Brian Eichenberger,* Jeffrey Foskett, Bruce Johnston, John Cowsill & Scott Totten) after their performance at the Inaugural Ball
- **09** Florida Governor Rick Scott and Mike at the Sunshine Inaugural Ball
- **10** Fred Hall, US Senator Lamar Alexander and
- **11** Governor Bill Haslam and Mike
- **12** Linda with Charlee & Buddee (Mike & Linda's pets) prior to the Inaugural Ball
- 13 Bill Hagerty and Mike. Hagerty was appointed by President Donald Trump as Ambassador to Japan after serving as the Director of Presidential  $Appointments \ on \ Trump's \ transition \ team. \ Prior \ to$ that, while serving as Commissioner of Tennessee's Department of Economic and Community Development, Hagerty appointed Mike to be chair-



man of the Tennessee Film Entertainment and Music Commission Board.

- **14** Former Lt. Governor and current Governor of Iowa, Terry Branstad, appointed by President Trump as Ambassador to China, and his wife Christine with Linda and Mike Curb and their daughter Courtney at the Curb ranch while Curb was Chairman of the National Lieutenant Governors Association.
- 15 Mike and US Senator Bob Corker
- **16** US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Mike
- 17-18 Linda and Mike at the Inaugural Ball **19** Mike with Texas Governor Rick Perry, holding the graduation certificate of Eloiza Salazar Stout, Mike's grandmother, from San Marcos Baptist Academy in Texas. Perry has now been appointed
- Secretary of Energy by President Donald Trump. **20** Texas Governor Perry and Donald Trump
- **21** President Donald Trump with his Star on the Historic Hollywood Walk of Fame.



- **22** Casey Kasem, Martin Luther King Jr.'s son Dexter King, and Mike Curb in California when Curb received his Star on the Historic Hollywood Walk of Fame (the same year that President Donald Trump received his Star). Donald Trump became the 45th President of the United States the week of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- 23 Presidents George W. Bush & Barack Obama
- **24** President Barack Obama and Senator John McCain at the Presidential Debate at the Curb Center at Belmont University in Nashville
- **25** Mike Curb and United States Secretary of Transportation and former U.S. Secretary of Labor, Elaine Chao served together on the Board of the Dole Food Company for many years (pictured here with David Murdock and other Dole board members). Chao is married to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
- **26** Mike Curb's star on the Historic Hollywood Walk of Fame
- **27** Linda and Mike at Trump Tower in New York



- **01** Donald Trump prior to his swearing in as the 45th President of the United States
- **02** United States Capitol
- **03** Mike and Linda with President Donald J. Trump
- 04 Curb Records released the Make America GreatAgain album, which hit the Billboard Top 40 sales chart, and the God Bless The USA album to celebrate America on January 20, 2017.
- **05** Chief Justice John Roberts swearing in Donald J. Trump as the 45th President of the United States

### MAR-A-LAGO 2019















- **01** Linda Curb, President Trump and Mike Curb
- **02** Mike Curb and RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniels at Mar-a-Lago
- **03** Linda on the grounds of Mar-a-Lago
- **04** Mike in front of Mar-a-Lago
- **05,06** Mar-a-Lago Exterior, intercoastal view

**07** Mar-a-Lago Exterior, ocean view side

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#### 2019 JA CENTENNIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE









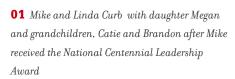


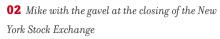












**03** Brandon and Catie Cox with Mike and the honorees at the NYSE

**04** Mike and Linda Curb with daughter Megan and grandchildren, Catie and Brandon

**05** Linda and Mike with granddaughter Catie on  $the \, floor \, of \, the \, NYSE$ 



 ${f 06}$  Linda and Mike with Les McCabe, President & CEO of JA of Southern California and Trent Klingensmith, President of JA of Middle Tennessee

**07** Mike in front of the NYSE

**08** Mike on Wall Street

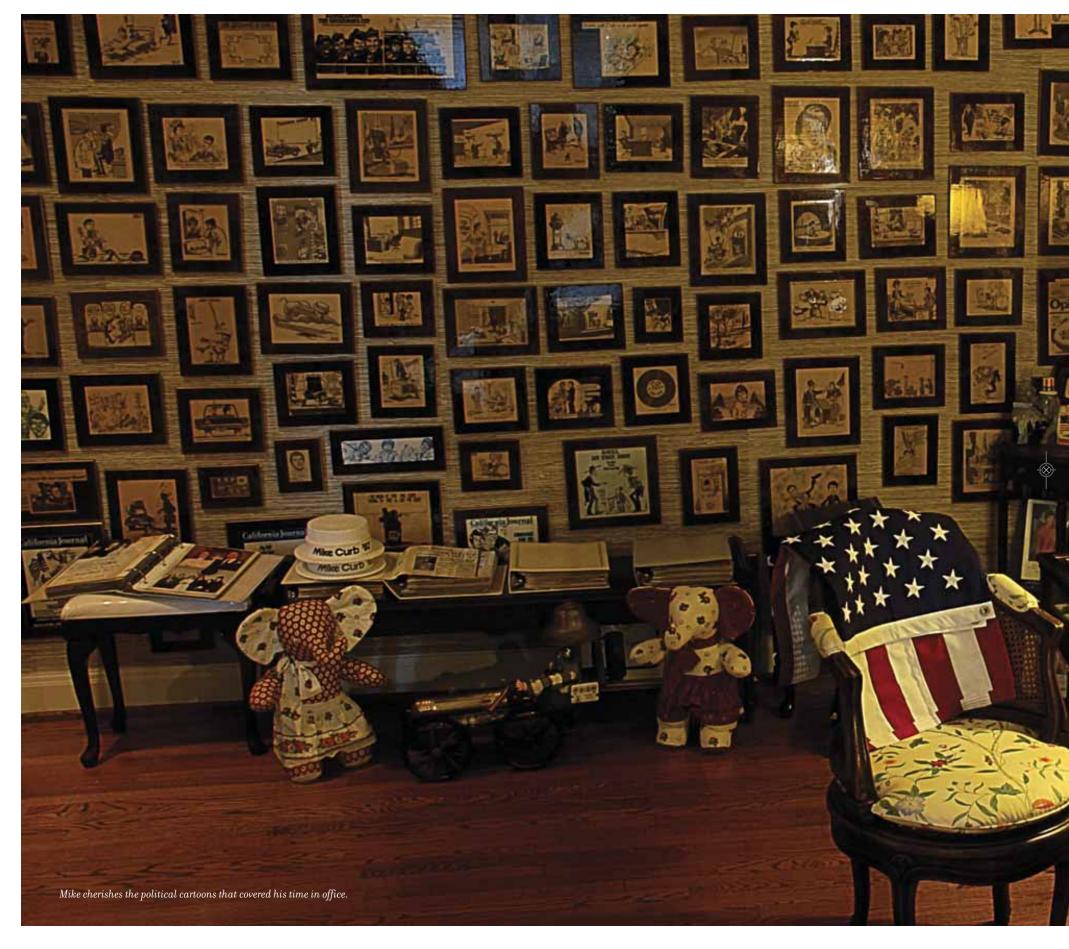
**09** Linda with grandchildren Catie and Brandon on the floor of the NYSE

**10** Mike Curb banner

**11** Mike receiving the National Centennial  $Leadership\,Award$ 

**12** The NYSE on Wall Street in Lower Manhattan, New York City





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#### PUBLIC SERVICE & GOVERNMENT



[ 315F ]

