

The Honorable Martha Elizabeth Keys
U.S. Representative of Kansas (1975–1979)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Family Support

Representative Keys recalls the family support she received when she ran for Congress.
Interview recorded June 14, 2016

Well, they were all supportive and, and my—although we, we were very careful in going around the state not to ever have it all be women, you know, whoever was in the car with me and things like that because that was not—I wasn't campaigning because I was a woman at all. That didn't even come up. In fact, you knew that that would not be a successful thing at that time. But they were all supportive. It was my son, the, who's now the architect, had gone to school for a year-and-a-half. He always made top grades and stuff. Decided he wanted to get out and go to Europe for a while, which he did. He had come back and he hadn't gone back to school yet because he had just gotten back. And he stayed out of school that semester and drove me everywhere, which was wonderful because I didn't have to be concerned about a thing. He would know where we had to be and he would get me off in time. Probably the only one I ever had that was, you know, that could do that. So, but they were all supportive. They all helped in different ways. Again, my husband didn't go out with me too often. He did sometimes but not, not very often. Never out much around the state, I mean, around the district. Of course, he was, you know, he was busy in his own life. He was dean of education at the K State, so.