

The Honorable Jill Lynette Long Thompson
U.S. Representative of Indiana (1989–1995)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Personal Connection

Representative Long Thompson explains the personal connection she had to veterans' issues.
Interview recorded June 15, 2017

Growing up, if your, one of your parents is a veteran, and I think just growing up as that being something that's just understood from the very beginning, you have an appreciation for the kinds of sacrifices that, that military personnel and their families make. And not only did my dad serve in World War II, but his brother served, one of his brothers served and was awarded a Purple Heart for an injury. And so, that was just something that we didn't talk about a great deal in the family, but that we knew. I just always knew that my dad was willing to give his life for this country and knowing that makes you approach—I mean, when it's someone that close to you, and my dad and I are still very close—knowing that makes you approach veterans issues, in a, I think in a way that it's, it's so personal and you're so passionate about it.