

**The Honorable Sue Myrick**  
U.S. Representative of North Carolina (1995–2013)

**Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress**

**Staying Grounded**

Using “Sue” on her campaign buttons was more than an easy way for voters to remember Representative Sue Myrick’s name. She used it as a promise and a reminder to stay grounded.

*Interview recorded March 14, 2016*

We just always use my name as, you know, Sue was something that was easy for people to remember, so that’s when it, when we did our advertising, we just always did Sue. And that’s who I am. I mean, you know, I told people, “I was Sue before I got elected. If I’m elected, I’ll be Sue in office, and I’ll be Sue when I leave. And if I’m not, I don’t deserve to be here.” And I think that’s one of the problems with office today, and especially on the federal level, is people get up here and they forget who they are. They forget their roots, and what they become is a politician, and they get into this system, and they aren’t real people any more, and they don’t live in a real world. I mean, this is a bubble up here. And so, unless you’ve got people around you who can ground you, you know, everybody’s saying how wonderful you are. And your staff idolizes you. And, I mean, it’s, you know, if you, if you don’t have a grounding and a level head, it can go to your head and you end up being an egotistical whatever.