

Reception & Dinner honoring Evelyn Gandy
“A Celebration of Public Service”
Friday, March 9, 2001
6:00 p.m.
Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center

(Message: 3 minutes providing greetings for the occasion of the Evelyn Gandy Endowment for scholarships for students in political science who plan to study law and enter public service)

NOTES

- Good Evening
- Evelyn Gandy is a role model for public service who deserves the tremendous respect she has earned in Mississippi.
- She is a role model recognized for her accomplishments by new generations of young women and students entering the field of public service.
- We are here tonight to not only celebrate the service Evelyn Gandy has provided to the State of Mississippi, but also to support the next generation she has inspired.
- This endowment will continue to support her legacy to our state.

- Evelyn Gandy is responsible for breaking political boundaries in this state.
- The only woman in her 1943 class at The Univ. of MS School of Law.
- 1948 - the first woman elected to the MS House of Representatives.
- 1959 – the first woman appointed Mississippi’s assistant attorney general.
- 1959 – first woman elected state treasurer, marking the first time a woman had ever been elected to a statewide office in Mississippi.
- After a second term as state treasurer, in 1972 she became the first woman elected as state insurance commissioner.
- 1975 – was elected lieutenant governor, the first woman in Mississippi to hold that office and one of the first in the nation.
- Awards received by Evelyn Gandy:
 - Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mississippi Bar,

- The Women's Political Network's Award for Distinguished Service,
- Mississippi State University's Woman of the Year Award,
- Mississippi University for Women's Medal of Excellence,
- The Margaret Brent Award by the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession, and
- The Corrine Lindy Boggs Award by the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service.