

**USNA '66 CLASS LUNCHEON
8 FEB 2023, ANCC**

Guest speaker: Hon. Dan Coats

Thanks Chuck. Chuck is the guy who makes all this work.

- Encourage - Check into '66 Website. usna66.org.
- FYI, Possible Healthcare info project. '65

You are in for a treat today. It's my privilege and honor to introduce our speaker – the Honorable Dan Coats.

Some of you may remember the Movie: "Mars Attacks." Came out in 1996 and starred Jack Nicholson as President. It's generally forgettable except for one great line. In the storyline, the Martians blow up Congress. . . the House and Senate are toast. So, President Nicholson goes on TV to announce that "I want the people to understand that they still have "Two Out Of Three Branches of Government Working For Them, And Two out of Three Ain't Bad." (Joke line in our family)

To be clear, our speaker today was not in the movie, but he has worked in two out of three branches of federal government, and – if you've read his bio, you'll understand "that ain't bad." In fact, it's a pretty amazing record which spans over 40 years.

Dan hails from Indiana. Graduated from Wheaton College in 1965 and got his JD from Indiana University. The only potential flaw I can find in his resume is that he served in the Army. But we can forgive that since his wife later became sponsor of USS McFaul, DDG-74, a younger sister ship of our sponsored ship, USS Gonzales. Marsha continues to serve as a trustee on the Ship Sponsorship Committee.

In the Legislative branch he represented Indiana in the house for 8 years as a congressman (1981-89), and 16 years as Senator in two terms (1989-1999; 2011-17). He was intimately involved in our line of work, serving on two key committees, the Senate Armed Services Committee, and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Between his Senate tours, he served in the Executive Branch as Ambassador to Germany 2001-2005 (Knew Carl Fulford – Deputy CINCEUR at the time.) Later, in 2017 – after his second Senate term - he was selected as the 5th Director of National Intelligence (2017-19).

As most of you know the DNI is a cabinet secretary level position, which was established in 2005 as a result of the 9/11 Commission and codified in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA). Essentially it was Goldwater Nichols for the intelligence community, bringing all intelligence organizations under one office, including CIA, DIA, NSA, NGA. (I had the privilege of serving on his Senior Advisory Group while he was DNI).

Going back to Mars Attacks, you could make the case that he's actually served in all three branches of the Government. When Justice Samuel Alito was nominated to the Supreme Court in 2005, Dan served – successfully - as the “Sherpa” to guide him successfully through the confirmation process. I understand that was pretty sporty affair. So, he's been involved in the judicial branch of government as well.

In spite of all that, Dan has remained true to his midwestern roots. He's a godly, gracious man who has traversed the Washington swamp with his goodness and integrity intact. And, in addition to his government service, he has served as President of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, as co-chair of the Center for Jewish and Christian Values, and as a member of several other boards, civic and volunteer organizations.

He and his bride Marsha have 3 children and 10 grandchildren! And I understand from reliable sources (that would be his wife) - that Dan is a life-long Cubs fan . . . and a bad golfer! I won't comment on his golf game, but Exhibit A on the first charge is that he took his wife to a Cubs game the day after they were married.

Please welcome the Honorable Dan Coats.

Class Announcement

Sen. Dan Coats, Featured Guest Speaker for 8 February

Senator Dan Coats is a senior policy advisor in King & Spalding's Government Advocacy and Public Policy Practice Group. Senator Coats joined King & Spalding after serving as Director of National Intelligence from 2017 to 2019. A former member of Congress, Senator Coats represented Indiana in the United States Senate from 1989 to 1999 and again from 2011 to 2017. He served in the United States House of Representatives from 1981 to 1988, and as US. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany from 2001 to 2005.

While in Congress, Senator Coats was a member of several high-profile committees, including the Senate Armed Services Committee, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and the House Energy and Commerce Committee. He also was a member of the Senate leadership, serving as Midwest Regional Whip. In the Senate, Senator Coats focused on national security, health care, education, and human resources issues. He was a strong advocate of a bipartisan approach to national security issues and joined with Democrats such as Senator Joseph Lieberman in pursuing several defense reform and transformation initiatives.

Senator Coats has served as President of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, as co-chair of the Center for Jewish and Christian Values, and as a member of several other boards, civic and volunteer organizations. He is a graduate of Wheaton Collège and holds a J. D. degree from Indiana University School of Law.

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, Project for American Renewal (1995)
- Author, Mending Fences: Renewing Justice Between Government and Civil Society, Center for Public Justice and Baker Books (1998)

EDUCATION

- JS., Indiana University
- B.A., Wheaton College

ASSOCIATIONS

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Past President
- Center for Jewish and Christian Values, Former Co-chair