

Volume 6

Number 061

First Ladies: Anna Eleanor Roosevelt - III

Lead: After the death of her husband in 1945, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt began a life of vigorous support for those causes that animated the couple during their marriage.

Intro.: *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.

Content: Released from the political restrictions of the White House, Eleanor Roosevelt followed her heart. She served on the board of the NAACP, helped found the liberal social pressure group Americans for

Democratic Action, and actively stumped for her friend Illinois Governor Adlai Stevenson in two presidential campaigns. She continued to animate the faithful and irritate her enemies with a full schedule of lectures, writing, and activism. Her unconventional approach had made her a controversial First Lady, it didn't stop after she left the White House.

In her last years, Eleanor Roosevelt's first love was the United Nations, where as U.S. representative she helped draft and pass a Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Her dedication and practical approach won approval from friend and foe alike. In Paris in the early days of the

Cold War she took on the Russians for their manipulation of the role of women.

Whatever one thought of Eleanor Roosevelt she surely broke the mold for activists, for women, and for First Ladies of the United States.

At the University of Richmond, this is Dan Roberts.

Resources

Boller, Paul F., Jr. *Presidential Wives*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Hareven, Tamara K. *Eleanor Roosevelt: An American Conscience*. Boston, MA: Da Capo Press, 1975.

Lash, Joseph P. *Eleanor and Franklin*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton, 1971.

Youngs, J. William T. *Eleanor Roosevelt: A Personal and Public Life*. New York, NY: Pearson Publishing, 1985.

Copyright by Dan Roberts Enterprises, Inc.