441 Freedom Parkway NE
Atlanta, GA 30307
http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov

Carter Condolence and Memorial Collection: A Guide to Its Records at the Jimmy Carter Library

Collection Summary

Creator: Multiple Creators; Individual creators listed with record, when available.

Title: Carter Condolence and Memorial Collection

Dates: 2023-2025

Quantity: 3.21 linear feet open for research, 4 containers

Identification:
Accession Number: U25-01
National Archives Identifier: 519768113

Scope and Content:
The materials in the collection include letters, documents, cards, photos, condolences, memoriams, and other ephemera sent to the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library following the deaths of First lady Rosalynn Carter and President Jimmy Carter. The bulk of the collection consists of condolence books signed by visitors at several presidential libraries and funeral homes. Also included in the collection are materials donated by individual collectors.

Creator Information:

Biographical information on key office personnel is located at the end of the finding aid.

Restrictions:
None

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction: Copyright interest in these papers has been donated to the United States Government. Some of the records may be subject to copyright restrictions (i.e. newspapers, publications, etc.). Researchers should contact the publisher for further information.

Related Material:

Related materials in this repository: Carter Vertical Files

Related materials in other repository: None

Separated material: None

Index Terms:

Limited to major topics under each category
Persons: Carter, Jimmy; Carter, Rosalynn

Organizations: Almon Funeral Home and Chapel; Cohoes Public Library and Senior Center; Atlanta Journal-Constitution; District Department of Transportation; Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum & Boyhood Home; Family Life Missionary Baptist Church; Fletcher-Day Funeral Home; Fuller Funeral Home-Cremation Service; George H.W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum; George W. Bush Presidential Library; Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library & Museum; Harry S. Truman Library & Museum; Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum; Higgins Funeral Home; Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum; Lescher Millsap Funeral Home; Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library; Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Board of Commissioners; Nebraska Unicameral Legislature; National Archives; North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; North Carolina Office of the Governor; Office of the Mayor of Groton, CT; Perry Funeral Chapel; Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum; Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & Museum; Washington Post

Subjects: Death, funerals, proclamations, legislature

Places: Washington D.C., Georgia

Types of Material: Correspondence, newspapers, ephemera, printed material, journals, photos, and handwritten notes

Administrative Information:

Preferred citation: [Type of Document], [Names of Sender and Recipient or Title of Document], [Date], [Collection Title], [Series Title], [Folder Title], [Box Number], Jimmy Carter Presidential Library.

Acquisition information: These historical materials were received by multiple donors upon the passing of President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter.

Processing information: All series of the collection were opened in 2025.

System of Arrangement:

Arrangement Note: The Carter Condolence and Memorial Collection is divided into two series:

Series Title	Series ID (ARC)
Rosalynn Carter	**519780327**
Jimmy Carter	**519780338**

Detailed Description of the Collection

Rosalynn Carter

Scope and Content: Container 1. This series was opened in June 2025. This series contains correspondence, printed material, journals, and handwritten notes. This material relates to the passing of First Lady Rosalynn Carter in 2023. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Jimmy Carter

Scope and Content: Containers 2-4. This series was opened in June 2025. The series consists of journals, printed materials, photos, correspondence, newspapers, handwritten notes, and ephemera. This material relates to the passing of President Jimmy Carter in 2024. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

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Container List

Rosalynn Carter

Container 1

George H.W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum, Condolences
Gerald R. Ford Library & Museum, Condolences, Folder 1 of 2
Gerald R. Ford Library & Museum, Condolences, Folder 2 of 2
Harry S. Truman Library & Museum, Condolences
Herbert Hoover Presidential and Museum, Condolences
Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Condolences
National Archives, Condolences

Jimmy Carter

Container 2

Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential, Museum & Boyhood Home, Condolences
George W. Bush Presidential Library, Condolences
Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum, Condolences
Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Condolences, Folder 1 of 2
Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, Condolences, Folder 2 of 2
Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library, Condolences
Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, Condolences
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & Museum, Condolences

Container 3

Almon Funeral Home and Chapel, Condolences
Cohoes Public Library and Senior Center, Condolences
Family Life Missionary Baptist Church, Press Kit
Fletcher-Day Funeral Home, Condolences and Display Material
Fuller Funeral Home-Cremation Service, Condolences
Higgins Funeral Home, Condolences
Lescher Millsap Funeral Home, Condolences
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Board of Commissioners, Resolution
Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, Legislative Resolution
North Carolina, Condolences and Correspondence
Office of the Mayor of Groton, Connecticut, Proclamation
Perry Funeral Chapel, Condolences and Ephemera

Container 4

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Monday Edition, 12/30/24
Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Special Feature
Mencia, Lucy, Parking Signs and Correspondence, Folder 1 of 2
Mencia, Lucy, Washington Post, 1/10/25, Folder 2 of 2

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Last modified: June 2025

Biographical Information

Jimmy Carter

Jimmy Carter (James Earl Carter, Jr.), thirty-ninth president of the United States, was born October 1, 1924, in the small farming town of Plains, Georgia, and grew up in the nearby community of Archery. His father, James Earl Carter, Sr., was a farmer and businessman; his mother, Lillian Gordy Carter, a registered nurse.

He was educated in the public school of Plains, attended Georgia Southwestern College and the Georgia Institute of Technology, and received a B.S. degree from the United States Naval Academy in 1946. In the Navy he became a submariner, serving in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets and rising to the rank of lieutenant. Chosen by Admiral Hyman Rickover for the nuclear submarine program, he was assigned to Schenectady, New York, where he took graduate work at Union College in reactor technology and nuclear physics, and served as senior officer of the recommissioning crew of the Seawolf, the second nuclear submarine.

On July 7, 1946, he married Rosalynn Smith of Plains. When his father died in 1953, he resigned his naval commission and returned with his family to Georgia. He took over the Carter farms, and he and Rosalynn operated Carter's Warehouse, a general-purpose seed and farm supply company in Plains. He quickly became a leader of the community, serving on county boards supervising education, the hospital authority, and the library. In 1962 he won election to the Georgia Senate. He lost his first gubernatorial campaign in 1966, but won the next election, becoming Georgia's 76th governor on January 12, 1971. He was the Democratic National Committee campaign chairman for the 1974 congressional and gubernatorial elections.

On December 12, 1974, he announced his candidacy for president of the United States. He won his party's nomination on the first ballot at the 1976 Democratic National Convention, and was elected president on November 2, 1976.

Jimmy Carter served as president from January 20, 1977 to January 20, 1981. Significant foreign policy accomplishments of his administration included the Panama Canal treaties, the Camp David Accords, the treaty of peace between Egypt and Israel, the SALT II treaty with the Soviet Union, and the establishment of U.S. diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. He championed human rights throughout the world. On the domestic side, the administration's achievements included a comprehensive energy program conducted by a new Department of Energy; deregulation in energy, transportation, communications, and finance; major educational programs under a new Department of Education; and major environmental protection legislation, including the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

Mr. Carter is the author of twenty-seven books. On December 10, 2002, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2002 to Mr. Carter "for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development."

Jimmy Carter passed away in the Carter home in Plains, Georgia on December 29, 2024 at the age of 100 years old.

Rosalynn Carter

Rosalynn Smith Carter was born in Plains, Georgia, August 18, 1927 to Edgar and Allie Smith. She graduated from Georgia Southwestern College, 1946. She married Jimmy Carter July 7, 1946. Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter has worked for more than three decades to improve the quality of life for people around the world. Today, she is an advocate for mental health, caregiving, early childhood immunization, human rights, and conflict resolution through her work at The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia. The center is a private, nonprofit institution founded by former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter in 1982.

A full partner with the president in all the center's activities, the former first lady is a member of The Carter Center Board of Trustees. She created and chairs The Carter Center's Mental Health Task Force, an advisory body of experts, consumers, and advocates promoting positive change in the mental health field. Each year, she hosts the Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy, bringing together leaders of the nation's mental health organizations to address critical issues. Mrs. Carter emerged as a driving force for mental health when, during the Carter administration, she became active honorary chair of the President's Commission on Mental Health, which resulted in passage of the Mental Health Systems Act of 1980.

She served on the Policy Advisory Board of The Atlanta Project (TAP), a program of The Carter Center addressing the social ills associated with poverty and quality of life citywide, from the program's inception in 1991 until its transfer to Georgia State University in 1999. In 1988, she convened with three other former first ladies to partake in the "Women and the Constitution" conference at the Carter Center to assess the document's impact on women.

Outside the center, Mrs. Carter is president of the board of directors for the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Care giving (RCI) at Georgia Southwestern State University, which was established in her honor on the campus of her alma mater in Americus, Georgia. Through research, education, and training, the RCI promotes the mental health and well-being of individuals, families, and professional caregivers; delineates effective care giving practices; builds public awareness of care giving needs; and advances public and social policies that enhance caring communities. She has written five books.

Mrs. Carter has received many honors, among them the Volunteer of the Decade Award from the National Mental Health Association; the Award of Merit for Support of the Equal Rights Amendment from the National Organization for Women; the Notre Dame Award for International Service; the Eleanor Roosevelt Living World Award from Peace Links; the Kiwanis World Service Medal from Kiwanis International Foundation; the Jefferson Award from the American Institute for Public Service; the Georgia Woman of the Year Award from the Georgia Commission on Women; the Rhoda and Bernard Sarnat International Prize in Mental Health from the Institute of Medicine; the United States Surgeon General's Medallion; and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor. In 2001 she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

Rosalynn Carter passed away in the Carter home in Plains, Georgia on November 19, 2023 at the age of 96 years old.