

Administration of Barack Obama, 2011

Statement on the Death of Elizabeth A. Ford

July 8, 2011

Throughout her long and active life, Elizabeth Anne Ford distinguished herself through her courage and compassion. As our Nation's First Lady, she was a powerful advocate for women's health and women's rights. After leaving the White House, Mrs. Ford helped reduce the social stigma surrounding addiction and inspired thousands to seek much-needed treatment. While her death is a cause for sadness, we know that organizations such as the Betty Ford Center will honor her legacy by giving countless Americans a new lease on life.

Today we take comfort in the knowledge that Betty and her husband, former President Gerald Ford, are together once more. Michelle and I send our thoughts and prayers to their children Michael, John, Steven, and Susan.

NOTE: The statement referred to Susan Ford Bales, daughter of former First Lady Ford.

Categories: Statements by the President : Deaths :: Ford, Elizabeth A.

Names: Bales, Susan Ford; Ford, Elizabeth A.; Ford, John G.; Ford, Michael G.; Ford, Steven M.; Obama, Michelle.

Subjects: Civil rights : Women's rights and gender equality; Deaths : Ford, Elizabeth A.; Drug abuse and trafficking : Addiction treatment and reduction efforts; Drug abuse and trafficking : Education and prevention efforts.

DCPD Number: DCPD201100495.