

## **Dolly Seelmeyer**

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### **Remembering Tip O'Neill**

Recollections of taking a photo for the Speaker's family.

*Interview recorded December 15, 2004*

It was about 8 o'clock at night, and the Speaker's family decided that they wanted a picture of the flag at half-staff for the funeral services. Well, it's raining, it's pitch-dark, and they said, "Dolly, you've got to come in. The Speaker's family wants this photograph." And I said, "Okay. How do I get the lab up and running, how do I take a picture of a flag in the rain?" And I get out there, and I look at it, and I said, "The light on the flag is ten feet above the flag. It's pitch-dark, what do we do?" So, they brought in a couple of police officers with floodlights. They held the floodlights on the flag that was at half-staff, wet, kind of sad. I brought in another staff person. They were ready to send the car after me from the Sergeant-at-Arms Office. I said, "No, it'd be faster if I drove in myself." So, we stood out there in the rain, and the police officer standing there with his floodlight, and he says, "Well, I guess this is 'other tasks as designated.'"