

Gwendolyn Mink

Daughter of the Honorable Patsy Takemoto Mink of Hawaii

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

John Mink's Role in Representative Mink's Career

Gwendolyn Mink describes her father's role in her mother's political career.

Interview recorded March 14, 2016

My father was essential to my mother's political career. My father was a science guy with a, a whole range of political interests. And so, he—it was not a distraction to him to take an interest in my mother's political work. I mean, they were, in, in some ways, a real partnership in, in the political business of the, of the family. He was her principal—electorally speaking—advisor. He ran—in the '60s and '70s, certainly, he ran her campaigns. He—occupationally, after she was elected to Congress in '64, he sort of divided his time between D.C. and Hawaii. And so, he was often in Hawaii to witness firsthand developments that, that she needed to respond to, and so she relied on him certainly for that kind of filtering of information that, that only somebody that you trust totally can provide to you. So, yeah, he was totally involved.