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NEWS RELEASE

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**The following is a statement by New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman
on the passing of US Sen. Barry Goldwater:**

Senator Barry Goldwater's passing marks the end of a lifetime of public service and gives us all an opportunity to reflect on the profound impact he had on this nation and on the Republican Party.

I had the opportunity in recent years to meet privately with Senator Goldwater to discuss our shared views about the Republican Party and found him to be at all times insightful and inspiring. His wisdom and experience will be missed from the national debate.

Senator Goldwater knew that our country could only meet its obligation to lead the world from a position of strength -- strength militarily, financially and morally.

Senator Goldwater was consistent in his reminders that conservatism had at its heart a respect for individual rights and personal freedoms. He was unwavering in his belief that conservatism is inclusive and was willing to fight for that belief.

Americans from all walks of life can look back on the career and philosophy of Senator Goldwater with respect and gratitude. The courage of Senator Goldwater's convictions has rarely been equaled in modern American politics.