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**Former D.C. Elected Official Carol Schwartz
Announces the Release of Her Autobiography**

Carol brings readers into her life story as well as a front-row view of local D.C politics spanning five decades.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — October 26, 2017 — In 2008, before former at-large D.C. Councilmember Carol Schwartz left that body, she and Marion Barry were the only two elected officials still serving in office who were on D.C.’s first Home Rule ballot in 1974. She brings this depth of experience as well as her unique personal story to her autobiography, *Quite a Life! From Defeat to Defeat ... and Back*.

Always a straight-shooter, Carol talks about her life with characteristic candor and her opinions with unbridled honesty—and usually with humor. From her difficult childhood in West Texas to her unexpected political victories, to her losses both in public and private life, including the sudden death of her husband, Carol Schwartz tells it like it was, warts and all.

Though an Independent for the past four years, she spent her public service career as a Republican, getting elected in a city where Republican is hardly a popular word. Yet running against Barry for Mayor in 1994, despite D.C.’s 11 to 1 Democrat to Republican odds, she received 42% of the vote. It is still the closest Mayoral general election in D.C. history.

In *Quite a Life!*, she talks about D.C.’s political history of the last 40 years from an insider’s viewpoint. And she speaks passionately about issues that matter most to her, including the abominable lack of voting rights in Congress for the federal income taxpaying residents of Washington, D.C.

Carol gives an up close and personal account of her time on the Board of Education from 1974 to 1982. She weaves a narrative through a contentious teachers strike, and a battle to dismiss a failing Superintendent while hiring two successful ones, including Dr. Vincent E. Reed who sadly just passed away, and with whom she worked to establish Benjamin Banneker Academic High School.

She also provides insight into her time on the D.C. Council from 1985 to 1989, and again from 1997 to 2009. Carol was known for her truth-telling, independence, tenacious oversight, and for sounding the alarm on fiscal mismanagement and worse, early on. She is proud to have many successes, including making the Whistleblower’s Protection Law the strongest in the country and leading the way to the passage of Sick and Safe Leave for non-government workers, making D.C. the second jurisdiction in the country to do so. Carol also speaks of her community work, such as with the Whitman-Walker Clinic for 17 years, including during many of the worst years of the AIDS epidemic, and her 25 years on the Board of the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs, becoming its first woman President in its 62-year history.

This is also a book in which personal challenges are spoken of honestly. From growing up with a tough father and as one of the very few Jewish people in the oil town of Midland, Texas, to being a caretaker for her beloved brother who was intellectually disabled, to working in the small, struggling family store starting at age eight, to the magnetic pull that brought her to D.C. after only one three-day visit, to the joy and grief of her adult years, she does not hold back. As Carol states, “It is honest, truthful and revealing. I knew early on when I started this project several years ago that if I was not going to do it candidly, outspokenly and truthfully, why bother? So I did it the only way I could—and I am glad.”

Carol continues, “I spent a long time working on this story of my life. It is comprehensive in every way. If you want someone to give you a sugar-coated synopsis of a life, go elsewhere. But if you want an outspoken autobiography—with pictures galore—that also talks about the history of D.C. since Home Rule, takes you behind the scenes of chaotic campaigns, as well as shows you the inner workings of government—all rolled together—come on this ride with me.”

It’s a journey of wins and defeats, and coming back with hope.

Quite a Life! From Defeat to Defeat... and Back is available for purchase starting Thursday, October 26, 2017 at caroldc.com. She has eight events planned in all eight wards over the next two weekends., where you can hear Carol talk, buy her book, and get it signed. The schedule for the events is also available on caroldc.com.

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