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**First Female Lt. Governor of IL Corinne Wood Paved Way for Women in Politics
*Wood, Alumna of The Lincoln Series, Influenced Women to Run for Office***

May 19, 2021 (La Grange, Ill.) - The Lincoln Series' Board of Governors mourns the passing of the first female Lt. Governor of Illinois, Corinne Wood, after a hard fought battle with breast cancer. Wood was a 1996 alumna of The Lincoln Series, an organization that mentors and trains women to run for office. She influenced women by her unwavering advocacy in healthcare and redistricting Illinois. Corinne truly was a trailblazer for women in politics.

"We cherished the opportunities to have Corrine Wood share her time, wisdom and experience as a speaker with our Leadership Class and will miss her authentic passion in moving women forward in politics." Eva Pusateri, President of The Lincoln Series. "On behalf of The Board of Governors, our deepest condolences and prayers go out to the Wood family. Please know that your wife and mother was a very respected elected official and leader, and she will be missed."

Wood, a dedicated wife and mother, was an attorney who was a member for Illinois General Assembly representing the 59th district and went on to become the first female Lieutenant Governor of Illinois under George Ryan, from 1999-2002. She is survived by her husband, Paul; and her three children, Ashley, Brandon and Courtney.

The Lincoln Series, formerly known as The Excellence in Public Service Series, was organized in Illinois in 1994 by Mary Jo Arndt and the Illinois Committeewoman's Roundtable. Since its inception, The Lincoln Series has graduated more than 200 women from its Leadership Track, some of whom have gone on to become lieutenant governor, Illinois state senator, Illinois state representative and presidential appointees to name a few. The Lincoln Series is committed to being the premier educational and preparatory training program for Republican women in Illinois. For more information please visit lincolnseries.com or follow us on Facebook (@IllinoisLincolnSeries), Instagram (@lincoln_series), Twitter (@lincoln_series) and LinkedIn.

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