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“A FUNNY, AFFECTIONATE AND EXTRAORDINARILY INSIGHTFUL
BIOGRAPHY OF BARRY GOLDWATER.”

—Glenn Garvin, Miami Herald



Mr. Conservative
Goldwater on Goldwater

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Mr. Conservative

Goldwater on Goldwater



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“One of the most intriguing and revealing
documentaries about American politics
I have ever seen.”

– Sean Wilentz, George Henry Davis 1886
Professor of American History,
Princeton University

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Synopsis

CC Goldwater was five when her grandfather, Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater, ran for President in 1964. In this biographical documentary, illuminated by interviews with major public figures and never-before-seen home movies and photos, CC looks back on the man, his morals, his missteps... and his enduring legacy as “Mr. Conservative.”

Mr. Conservative: Goldwater on Goldwater follows that tumultuous campaign year, as well as others in a career that encompassed numerous political and ideological triumphs. Though he never achieved the ultimate prize, the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980 vindicated the conservative agenda Goldwater had long championed.

Ironically, in later years, Goldwater’s support of issues like abortion and gay rights was diametrically opposed to those of the “new conservative” leadership, underscoring both the distance the country had traveled in 40 years, as well as the dogged independence Goldwater embodied up to his death in 1998.

In addition to detailing Goldwater’s rise in politics, **Mr. Conservative** includes a myriad of anecdotes and insights about Goldwater’s private and public life. Identified as much with his home state of Arizona as JFK was with Massachusetts, Goldwater was, according to conservative columnist George F. Will, “not just from Arizona....he looked like Arizona.”

2006 • 90 mins • Color • USA • In English

A Barry Goldwater 1909 Timeline

JANUARY 1

Born in Phoenix, Arizona.

NOVEMBER

Wins upset victory for U.S. Senate in Arizona over incumbent Senator Ernst McFarland by 6,500 votes.

'52

'60

Publishes the book, *Conscience of a Conservative*, which becomes a bible in conservative circles.

What people are saying about Mr. Conservative

“**Mr. Conservative** is one of the most intriguing and revealing documentaries about American politics I have ever seen. Its wide-ranging interviews and rare, superb footage beautifully evoke a political world we seem to have lost. Its considered view of Barry Goldwater—as a man, and not just as a founder of modern conservatism—both surprises and instructs viewers from across the political spectrum. At once complicated and accessible, the film should prove an essential resource for educators at the secondary and college level.”

—Sean Wilentz, George Henry Davis 1886
Professor of American History, Princeton University

“**Mr. Conservative** is a rare achievement. It offers us a perspective of a major American political figure that does not take the easy path of simple adoration and partisanship. Rather, it asks hard questions about Barry Goldwater’s positions on Civil Rights and nuclear war and his difficult relationships with family members. Yet, the film dynamically reveals Goldwater’s powerful charisma and strong character that brought millions of men and women under the banner of modern American conservatism.”

—Robert A. Goldberg, Author of *Barry Goldwater*
and Professor of History, University of Utah

“Contemporary American conservatism has been braided from many political and intellectual strands. But its first great stride toward national power began with Barry Goldwater’s 1964 presidential campaign. **Mr. Conservative** is a splendid presentation of the man, and of the pedigree of a political idea.”

—George F. Will, syndicated conservative columnist



'64

JULY 15 Wins the G.O.P. presidential nomination on a platform that includes greater aggression in the Vietnam conflict.

NOVEMBER 4 Lyndon Johnson defeats Goldwater in the presidential election by 16 million votes.

Timeline continued on back...

Participants in Mr. Conservative

Julian Bond - Chairman of the NAACP

Ben Bradlee - Former editor of *The Washington Post*

James Carville - Political consultant

Hillary Rodham Clinton - U.S. Senator (D-New York)
and onetime "Goldwater Girl"

Walter Cronkite - Former *CBS Evening News* Anchor

John Dean - Former White House Counsel to Richard Nixon

Al Franken - Humorist, author and political commentator

Edward Kennedy - U.S. Senator (D-Massachusetts)

Robert MacNeil - Co-creator of *The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour*

John McCain - U.S. Senator (R-Arizona)

Sandra Day O'Connor - Retired Associate Justice of
the U.S. Supreme Court

Andy Rooney - *60 Minutes* commentator and journalist

Bob Schieffer - CBS News journalist

George F. Will - Conservative author and columnist

Barry Goldwater

Bob Goldwater - brother

Barry Goldwater Jr. - son

Joanne Goldwater - daughter

Ty Goldwater - grandson

CC Goldwater - granddaughter

★ **Filmmakers available** ★
for speaking engagements

Quotable Goldwater

"I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice! And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

"A liberal is a man too broadminded to take his own side in a quarrel."

"A government that is big enough to give you all you want is big enough to take it all away."

"Politics and governing demand compromise. But these Christians believe they are acting in the name of God, so they can't and won't compromise. I know, I've tried to deal with them."

"Those who seek absolute power, even though they seek it to do what they regard as good, are simply demanding the right to enforce their own version of heaven on earth. And let me remind you, they are the very ones who always create the most hellish tyrannies. Absolute power does corrupt, and those who seek it must be suspect and must be opposed."

"My faith in the future rests squarely on the belief that man, if he doesn't first destroy himself, will find new answers in the universe, new technologies, new disciplines, which will contribute to a vastly different and better world in the twenty-first century."

"It's a great country, where anybody can grow up to be president...except me."

"When I'm not a politician, I'll be dead."

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'74



AUGUST 7

Having been re-elected to a third term in the Senate in 1968, Goldwater visits President Nixon with other House and Senate leaders to inform him that he does not have enough votes to avoid impeachment. Nixon resigns two days later.



'86

OCTOBER 18

The 99th Congress adjourns, bringing to a close Goldwater's thirty-four-year-long Senate career.

'88

JANUARY 22

Planned Parenthood honors Goldwater for his commitment to privacy rights and a woman's right to choose.

'88

JUNE

Declares that the military should lift its ban on gays.

'94

'98

MAY 29

Barry Goldwater dies at age 89 in Paradise Valley, Arizona, of complications from a stroke in late 1996.

