

## Ann Romney

Former First Lady of Massachusetts and NYT Best-Selling Author

Ann Romney is the former First Lady of Massachusetts and the New York Times best-selling author of *The Romney Family Table: Sharing Home-Cooked Recipes & Favorite Traditions, Whatever You Choose to Be*, and her recently released *In This Together: My Story*, which chronicles her experiences living with multiple sclerosis (MS). The wife of politician and businessman Mitt Romney, Ann Romney served as a powerful voice in her husband's 2008 and 2012 bids for the White House—even while wives of high-profile Republican political candidates are typically reserved and shy away from the campaign spotlight.

She shares her inspirational journey with MS and offers a motivating look inside the transformation that happens when life throws you a curveball. She touches on innovation and healthcare in the United States, and her presentations are peppers with behind-the-scenes political stories from her time with Mitt on the campaign trail. With remarkable insights that touch all audiences, her valued perspective on her life in and out of the political spotlight is engaging and informative.

**Battle with MS.** Diagnosed in 1998, Ann Romney has volunteered much of her time to raise awareness of multiple sclerosis. By raising the profile of the disease, as well as raising funds for advocacy and research, she is determined to make a difference in the lives of people who suffer from it.

She shares the wisdom that touched her life and inspired her to make an astounding recovery, saying “With all the blessings I’ve had, I believe MS has been my greatest teacher: it has taught me about faith, compassion and serving others.” She is also the global ambassador of the Ann Romney Center for Neurologic Diseases at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, a project she founded in 2014, and proceeds from her speeches go toward MS research.

**Political Spotlight.** During her time as First Lady of Massachusetts, Ann Romney worked to focus attention on the challenges facing at-risk youth and continues to be engaged in that effort. She is a strong believer that faith-based and community organizations can reach some members of our community better than government can and served as the Governor’s liaison to the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. She has also been involved with United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Right To Play, formerly known as Olympic Aid.

Romney has advocated for the family and the economy with eloquence and has spoken of and served proudly as an example of the importance of motherhood and family values. She places primary importance on her role as a wife, a mother, and a grandmother.

The Romneys celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary this year.