

[E-BOOK] A Different Drummer: My Thirty Years with Ronald Reagan

A Different Drummer: My Thirty Years with Ronald Reagan

Von Michael K. Deaver

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New York Times Bestseller


MICHAEL K. DEAVER


A Different Drummer

My Thirty Years with Ronald Reagan

With a Foreword by Nancy Reagan



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Von Michael K. Deaver : A Different Drummer: My Thirty Years with Ronald Reagan before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Different Drummer: My Thirty Years with Ronald Reagan:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Unique Perspective Von James Gallen In A Different Drummer, Michael Deaver follows the theme of other authors, including Dinesh DSouza, who hold that Ronald Reagan had sufficient confidence in his own beliefs to allow him to follow his own instincts regardless of the opinions of others. Deaver has the unique perspective of thirty years of

intimate association with Ronald Reagan. Through the first campaign in California to the second term in the White House, Deaver advanced from campaign staffer to the office adjacent to the Oval Office. Deaver introduces the reader to the private Reagan. We see Reagan as he lives with Nancy, works with his staff and deals with his adversaries. Deaver portrays Reagan as knowing his core values and adhering to them. Even in controversy, such as the Bitburg decision, Reagan's loyalty to his friends remained unshaken. A self-identified member of the family, Deaver provides an insight into Nancy's role in protecting and leading Reagan through his life. In the story of his own return to the Reagans after Deaver's downfall, Deaver presents a loyal, concerned Reagan, unlike some others who portray Reagan as dumping cohorts who are no longer useful to him. Finally, through Michael Deaver, we see the declining Reagan in the early stages of Alzheimer's. *A Different Drummer* is a sympathetic portrayal of a confident, steady leader by one of his closest associates. It is a valuable tool with which to uncover the real Ronald Reagan. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fascinating Insights into President Reagan's Character Von Donald Mitchell To historians, President Reagan remains an enigma in many ways. No one failed to be moved by President Reagan. His magic touched us all. How much was the man? How much was carefully constructed image? In this detailed memoir of thirty years of working with President Reagan, Michael Deaver addresses many of the hypotheses and reports that bear on those questions. In doing so, he paints a compelling portrait of a genuinely principled man with enormous talent for inspirational leadership. President Reagan's devotion to ending the cold war was a pole star that undoubtedly helped all of humanity to gradually emerge from that conflict. In the foreword by Mrs. Reagan, she notes that "there are only a handful of people who could write about the private Ronald Reagan." One of the "most qualified is our friend Mike Deaver." She praises Mr. Deaver for working behind the scenes rather than trying to grab glory for himself. Mr. Deaver makes modest claims for the book. "I would never pretend to solve the riddle of Reagan . . ." This book is "not a biography . . . [it is] a book of memories." The book begins with the first time Mr. Deaver saw Mr. Reagan in person in the 1960s, and ends with the last time they saw one another before the book was written. The painful portrait of a talented man with Alzheimer's Disease will grip you, in a way that you cannot imagine. The book's main theme is that President Reagan "was guided by a source of inspiration that only he could understand." The quickest way to lose a point was to argue that taking a stand would hurt politically. President Reagan saw it as his duty to persuade people to take the right point of view. Polls determined what he had to communicate about, not what his decisions should be. Mr. Deaver's durability was related to both his sense of place and his sense of mission. Both Mrs. Reagan and he report that they shared a common objective of helping President Reagan be his most effective. Mr. Reagan was once asked if Mr. Deaver was like a son to him. He replied, "Son, no. Brother, maybe." Only once in their years together did Mr. Deaver use Mr. Reagan's first name with him. Mr. Deaver regrets having done so. Those who doubt the ability of or dislike President Reagan will dislike this book. It counters many of their beliefs and arguments. You will find that President Reagan sought out the tough decisions, did his homework, and always wanted to get the best people involved. He was able to handle the intellectual demands of the key issues, and worked hard to be sure that he had as much information as possible. The only way he would consider changing his mind about something was if people would be hurt by his decision. Those who always felt that there was a director and script writer in the wings will be fascinated to find out that almost all of President Reagan's best lines were written by him. He also did some pretty remarkable things to enhance his ability to persuade. For example, he wore only one contact lens when speaking. This enabled him to see both the script (with the one eye that had a lens in) and the eyes of the audience (to see how they were reacting). This was an approach he had designed himself to avoid reading glasses in public. The story of the assassination attempt will change your view of the event and the need for more presidential security forever. Anyone who has read this book could recount dozens of fascinating anecdotes. I will avoid the temptation to share more of them, so that you can enjoy them in the book. As interesting as they are, I think that the overall portrait is far more significant. President Reagan's competitiveness and discipline in the service of American ideals are what will most impress you. May we always be so well served in our presidents. After you read this book, think about how you could become more like President Reagan. What do you stand for? How can you become more competitive and disciplined in supporting those ideals? How can you help others understand what they are missing? Listen to your own drummer and . . . march on!

Kurzbeschreibung A warm, intimate portrait of President Ronald Reagan by his confidant and friend of over 35 years. Former aide and long-time family friend Michael Deaver first met Ronald Reagan during his 1966 campaign for governor of California and later served him in Sacramento and Washington, DC, as the president's deputy chief of staff. In *A Different Drummer*, Reagan emerges as charismatic and unwaveringly optimistic, a devoted husband and dedicated leader, disciplined and tough. As Deaver points out in his introduction, 'worked eight years doing the toughest job on earth; criss-crossed the world; and survived an assassin's bullet, a devastating riding accident, cancer, and brain surgery all after he turned seventy.' Deaver also shares the lows, including the tough times that would test the strength of their friendship. Finally, he shares a look at Reagan today as he battles Alzheimer's disease. It is Nancy

Reagan's finest hour, Deaver writes, a validation of the greatest love story he has ever known..deMichael Deaver, a longtime political advisor who served as deputy chief of staff in the Reagan White House, offers an approving, affectionate, and well-written portrait of the former president--but one that, for an insider's account, is surprisingly short on news. The Ronald Reagan who emerges from Deaver's pages is far different from the popularly held view, fueled by the media, of the president as an amiable but limited man who napped, golfed, and left the business of running the government to his lieutenants. Far from it, Deaver insists: Reagan read widely, kept up with the issues, and "firmly believed that it was his job to set the priorities of his administrations and to make the big decisions." Thoughtful and utterly courteous, if sometimes distant, Deaver's Reagan is a man of unbending conservative principle; careful to cross party lines to secure support for his policy and to judge his opponents by character, not doctrine; stalwart in his devotion to country; and certain, in Deaver's words, "that he was the right guy at the right time." This Reagan can do no wrong, and when controversy arises in Deaver's account it is almost always because someone else has flubbed the play. Unlike Alexander Haig, David Stockman, and other former administration officials who have written about their time in the Reagan White House, Deaver is quick to fall on the sword whenever he must. He takes responsibility, for instance, for the president's controversial decision to lay a wreath at a German cemetery that contained the graves of fallen SS soldiers, and for Reagan's difficulties in convincing voters of the wisdom of an expensive military buildup in the closing years of the cold war. About the Iran-Contra affair, which blackened Reagan's second term, Deaver has little to say, and about his own departure from the administration and subsequent investigation by federal prosecutors he is even more close-mouthed. Those seeking to learn more about Ronald Reagan as president may come away from Deaver's book disappointed. His admirers, however, will enjoy the anecdotes about "the traits that made him so successful as a leader and so peculiar--and wonderful--as a person." -- Gregory McNamee.com

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