



Dorothy “Dot” Padgett

Dot Padgett, a native of Douglasville spent her young adult days working in the P.T.A., Scouts and Sunday School. However, she is probably best known for her part in helping President Jimmy Carter get elected President of the United States. She was instrumental in organizing a unique campaign effort known as the “Peanut Brigade”. This was a group of 600 or more volunteers, most of them paying their own expenses, traveling in 18 states during the 1976 presidential Primaries and General elections. This proved to be very effective to have personal friends of Jimmy Carter knocking on doors and asking people to vote for their candidate. Southern accents were part of the appeal.

Dot authored the book, “Jimmy Carter Elected President with Pocket Change and Peanuts”. Her book chronicles Carter’s path from a peanut farmer in rural Georgia to the White House. It was released by Mercer University Press in September 2016.

In February 1977 she was appointed by President Carter to serve as Assistant Chief of Protocol for visits in the Office of Protocol. Her duties were organizing and scheduling with the White House, the Department of State and the Diplomat Corps, the visits of Chiefs of State and International Heads of Government invited by the President on an official visit to the United States and scheduling and traveling with the official party into other locations in the country.

At the request of the President, she was assigned the duty of finding sites of interest in this country to allow visitors to see the best of our country. Without question each major city that she visited wanted her to see the results of the preservation of history in their city. The idea was to give the visitor a taste of life in the United States.

This created a desire to keep the integrity of her own historical town intact. She served on the first Preservation Commission created by the Mayor and City Council of Douglasville.

Working as part of a team they have marched on city hall, hoisted 100 foot balloons in the air, made hundreds of homemade signs, and she has opened her home to numerous causes in an effort to further the endeavors for the preservation of historic downtown Douglasville and the betterment of our city.

Dot was named “Citizen of the Year” for 2012 by the Douglas County Chamber. She was inducted into the Douglas County Hall of Fame on May 6, 2015.