

**News Release**  
**5-13-14**

**COMMISSIONER AND RITA HELMICK OFFER CONDOLENCES  
ON PASSING OF MARY MANCHIN**

Rita and I offer our deepest condolences to our good friend U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin and his entire family on the passing of his mother, Mary Manchin.

Throughout our years working together in the State Senate and beyond, I saw the many strong values that she and his father instilled in Sen. Manchin.

She was a tremendous mother of five children and a tremendous West Virginian for 91 years.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Manchin family at this time.

*The West Virginia Department of Agriculture protects plant, animal and human health through a variety of scientific, regulatory and consumer protection programs, as mandated by state law. The Commissioner of Agriculture is one of six statewide elected officials in West Virginia. For more information, visit [www.wvagriculture.org](http://www.wvagriculture.org).*