

Editorial ? Thatcher was a giant

No matter what one's political leanings are, we have a hard time believing anybody could argue that the world lost a giant this week. Margaret Thatcher, the former prime minister of the United Kingdom, died Monday. The word was announced shortly before 8 a.m. our time.

While she had been away from the centre of the political stage for some years, there can be no doubt that this remarkable woman made her mark in a number of ways.

There are some who might argue that Mrs. Thatcher's greatest achievements were in the area of showing how far women could advance in roles of leadership. Although her contributions in that regard were both impressive and inspiring, the likes of Golda Meir and Indira Gandhi had already walked that path ahead of her.

Her greatest legacy, we believe, will be the positive impact she had on her nation, restoring a sense of greatness in a land where the glories seemed almost a thing of the past when she reached office.

She did it by promoting a conservative agenda, and doing so with iron resolve ? Not for nothing was she known as ?The Iron Lady.?

There are some in our time who consider conservatism to be something evil. But conservative leaders in this world have a habit of coming along when they are most needed. People like Mrs. Thatcher and Ronald Reagan had their detractors, to be sure. But history tends to pass very positive verdicts on what they accomplish.

Thus, it's no surprise to us that so many regard Mrs. Thatcher as a giant of her time.

We have no trouble agreeing with that.