

Bush 88 Quayle

BIOGRAPHY OF VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH

On January 20, 1981, George Bush was sworn in as the 43rd Vice President of the United States. On January 20, 1985, he was sworn in to serve a second term.

Vice President Bush serves as President of the United States Senate and as a close advisor to the President. As the only nationally elected official in the government besides the President, the Vice President provides confidential advice to the President on a full range of issues facing the government.

In June 1985, the Vice President was named to coordinate the Administration's activities to combat international terrorism. He previously headed similar efforts on deregulation and drug interdiction. At the President's direction, the Vice President has traveled to 64 foreign countries to consult with world leaders on matters of bilateral and international concern.

George Herbert Walker Bush was born in Milton, Massachusetts, on June 12, 1924. He graduated from Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, in June 1942, and on his 18th birthday he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve as a Seaman 2nd Class. Receiving his wings and commission while still 18, Bush became the youngest pilot in the U.S. Navy at the time.

On active duty from August 1942 to September 1945, he flew torpedo bombers off the USS San Jacinto, fighting in the Pacific Theater. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and three Air Medals.

When the war ended, he entered Yale University, completed his economics degree in 1948, graduated Phi Beta Kappa, and captained the varsity baseball team.

After graduation, Mr. Bush moved to Texas where he worked as a trainee and then as a supply salesman for Dresser Industries in West Texas and California from 1948 to 1950. He co-founded a small royalty firm, Bush-Overbey Oil Development Company, in 1951. In 1953, he co-founded Zapata Petroleum Corporation, and one year later -- at age 30 -- Mr. Bush became president and co-founder of a third firm, Zapata Offshore Company. The fledgling firm pioneered in experimental offshore drilling equipment. Today much of the energy produced around the world is drilled for by the rigs that Zapata pioneered. This entrepreneurial experience was the foundation for the Vice President's interest in the development of high technology industries. He has visited high tech facilities in America, applauding the risk-takers responsible for so much of the country's economic growth and new job opportunities.

He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1966 from Texas' 7th District. One of the few freshman members of Congress ever elected to serve on the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Bush was re-elected to the House without opposition two years later.

10/7/88

During his Congressional service, he was active in dealing with problems of excessive government spending, taxes, civil rights, and natural resources and environmental matters.

From 1971 to 1973, he served as the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, and as Chairman of the Republican National Committee from January 1973 to September 1974.

In October 1974, Mr. Bush traveled to Peking and served for more than a year as Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in the People's Republic of China, a sensitive and complex assignment, as the United States was beginning its new relationship with the People's Republic.

In 1976 Mr. Bush served as Director of Central Intelligence. He is given credit for helping restore the morale of the CIA and for strengthening the intelligence community, as well as helping write the Executive Order that guaranteed the protection of civil rights of U.S. citizens. As Chairman of the Task Force on Terrorism, he continued to urge a strengthening of the intelligence capabilities of the United States.

In July 1980, Mr. Bush was selected by Ronald Reagan to be his running mate at the 1980 Republican Convention; on November 4, was elected Vice President-designate of the United States; and on January 20, 1981, was sworn in as the 43rd Vice President of the United States. On January 20, 1985, he was sworn in to a second term.* /

He is married to the former Barbara Pierce of Rye, New York. They are the parents of five children: George, 42, of Midland, Texas; Jeb, 35, of Miami, Florida; Neil, 33, of Denver, Colorado; Marvin, 31, of Alexandria, Virginia; and Dorothy Bush LeBlond, 29, of Wilton, Connecticut. The Bushes have ten grandchildren.

Vice President and Mrs. Bush are residents of Houston, Texas, and are members of St. Martin's Episcopal Church, where he is a former vestryman. He has served on the vestry of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Kennebunkport, Maine, and is on the board of the Episcopal Church Foundation. He has been active in a wide range of civic and philanthropic concerns, and since 1972 has received 21 honorary degrees.

His father, the late Prescott Bush, served as U.S. Senator (R.-Conn.) from 1952 through 1962.

* / On July 13, 1985, Vice President Bush was named Acting President of the United States for several hours in an historic transfer of authority from President Reagan under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.