

The Honorable George Voinovich Government



George was graduated from Collinwood High School in 1954. He was a second generation Railroader, as his mother, Josephine, was graduated from Collinwood in 1928. A top student, George was President of The National Honor Society, President of The Senior Class, President of The Key Club, and Bank Comptroller. Classmates knew him as a leader.

George was graduated from The Ohio State University in 1958, and again with a J.D. from the O.S.U. School of Law in 1961.

He started his political career as Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio working in the Workman's Compensation division. He was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1967 and served 4 years. He sponsored or co-sponsored 85 bills that became law, including one of the most significant, the Senior Citizen's Homestead Exemption act. In 1976 he was elected Cuyahoga County Auditor and conducted the first management audit of any Cuyahoga County office.

1977 saw George elected to Cuyahoga County Commissioner. He was selected to run as Lieutenant Governor with Governor James Rhodes. They won the 1978 election. George left office to run for Cleveland Mayor, won the election and served from 1979-1989, becoming the longest standing Mayor in the city's history. During his tenure, Cleveland was chosen "All American City" 3 times. George was elected Governor in 1990.

Included in George's many awards are "Outstanding Public Service Award" from the National Association of County Officials (1976), one of "The Top Three Mayors In The Nation" (1987) by City and State Magazine, Midwestern Governors Conference Chairman (1991), N.G.A. Education Action On School Readiness Chairman, and Co-Chairman of the N.G.A. Task Force on Education.

George married Janet Allan and they have 3 children George, Betsy, and Peter.