

## **STROM THURMOND**

- 1902 Born on December 5 in Edgefield, S.C.
- 1923 Received B.S. degree from Clemson University.
- 1929-1933 Superintendent of Education, Edgefield County, S.C.
- 1930 Admitted to South Carolina Bar, after studying law under his father, Judge J. William Thurmond.
- 1933-1938 State senator, representing Edgefield County, S.C.
- 1938-1946 Circuit Judge of South Carolina (with a four-year leave of absence during World War II).
- 1942-1946 With First U.S. Army in World War II. Landed in Normandy on D-Day with 82nd Airborne Division. Awarded five battle stars and earned eighteen decorations, medals, and awards.
- 1947-1951 Governor of South Carolina.
- 1947 Married Jean Crouch of Elko, S.C. (deceased, 1960).
- 1948 Ran for President of the U.S. as States Rights Democratic candidate, carrying four states and receiving thirty-nine electoral votes.
- 1951-1955 Attorney-at-law, Aiken, S.C.
- 1954 Elected to the Senate as write-in candidate, November 2, the first person ever elected to major office in the U.S. by this method.
- 1956 Resigned from Senate on April 4, in order to place the office in a primary pursuant to a promise made during the 1954 campaign. Reelected to the Senate and resumed duties, November 7.

Reelected in 1960, 1966, 1972, 1978, 1984, 1990, and 1996.

- 1959 Major General, U.S. Army Reserve.
- 1964 Switched from Democratic to Republican party on September 16.
- 1968 Married Nancy Moore of Aiken, S.C.
- 1981-1987 Chairman of Judiciary Committee; Senate President pro tempore.
- 1983 Appointed to President's Commission on Organized Crime on November 28.
- 1985 Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution.
- 1995 Chairman of Armed Services Committee through the 105th Congress; Senate President Pro Tempore to present.
- 1997 Longest-serving member in Senate history (May 25). Has endowed 52 scholarships at 45 colleges and universities. Has received countless awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George Bush in 1992. Many facilities in South Carolina are named for him, including educational institutions, highways, a lake, and a mall.