

Broadwater, Tommie II

Biography in Brief

A. Personal

- Born in Washington, D.C. on June 9, 1942
- Relocated to Chapel Oaks, Maryland in 1943
- Married to the former Lillian Prince of Cedar Heights Maryland since 1958
- Father of four children: one son, Tommie III; three daughters, Tanya (deceased), Jackie, and Nita
- Grandfather of 11 and Great Grandfather of 2
- Education: Attended Prince George's County Public Schools and Southeastern University in Washington, D.C.
- Professional Career: Former State Senator-Democratic, District 24, 1974-1983; Former Town Councilman, Glenarden, Maryland, 1968-1972; Bondsman; Businessman/Entrepreneur/Restaurateur

B. Hobbies:

- A sports enthusiast – Baseball, Basketball, Football and watching Golf
- Cooking (Specialty – Bar-B-Q Ribs and Chicken Steak)
- Attending community and political events
- Public Speaking

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A Record of Distinguished Service

A. Committees

Ten (10) Years

- **Member, Budget and Taxation**
- **Chair, Subcommittee on Corrections and Transportation**
- **Vice Chair, Rules Committee**
- **Member, Commission on Inter-Governmental Cooperation**
- **Member, Joint Oversight Committee on Corrections**
- **Member, Joint Oversight Committee on Transportation**
- **Member, Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee**
- **Member, Governor's Housing Task Force**
- **Member, Governor's Task Force on Youth Employment, 1980-1982**

B. Awards

- **Civil Rights and Humanitarian Award, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)**
- **Most Outstanding Graduate Award in the first 25 Year History of Fairmont Heights High School**
- **Benjamin Banneker Public Affairs Award, United Supreme Council 33rd Ancient and Accepted**
- **SBA Outstanding Service Award, Howard University School of Law**
- **Outstanding Service Award, Central Child Development Center**
- **Outstanding Service Award, United Communities Against Poverty (UCAP)**

- Outstanding Citizen Award, Mayor of Baltimore
- Outstanding Service Award, Prince George's County
- Outstanding Service Award, Mayor and Council, Town of Glenarden
- Community Affairs, Public Policy and Higher Education Award, Morgan State University

C. Memberships

- Delegate, 1980 Democratic National Convention (Delegate for Jimmy Carter)
- Delegate, 1988 Democratic National Convention - Delegate and MD Delegation Whip for Rev. Jessie Jackson (present Shadow Senator, Washington, D.C.)
- Lifetime Member, NAACP
- Charter Member, Ploughman and Fisherman
- Member, YMCA
- Member, Prince George's Chamber of Commerce
- Lifetime Member, SCLC
- Member, 18th District Democratic Club
- Member, D.C. Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Boys and Girls Club of Glenarden
- Member, Listed in "Who's Who in the East"
- Member, Bondsman Association
- Member, Board of Director, Par-Lot Enterprises

D. Sponsorships

- **Glenarden Girls and Boys Club**
- **Raised 3 / 4 of Total State Funds for Rev. Jesse Jackson's Presidential Bid**
- **Chapel Oaks Volunteer Fire Department**
- **Prince George's County Police Basketball Team**
- **Glenarden Girls Basketball Team**
- **Executive III Basketball**
- **Midnight Basketball League**
- **Ebony Inn AA Touch Football Team**
- **Banquet for Disadvantaged Youth, 1989**
- **Annual Community Picnics, 1974-1998**

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Outstanding Leadership

A. Accomplishments

- Elected, Glenarden Town Councilman, 1968-1972
- Served as member of the Democratic Central Committee, 1970-1974
- First Black American elected to the Maryland State Senate from Prince George's County, 1974
- Served as a State Senator, Maryland General Assembly, 24th Legislative District, 1974-1983
- First Freshman State Senator appointed to the powerful Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, served a 10-year term, and Chair of Sub-Committee
- Served as member of the Senate Rules Committee
- Awarded over 1,500 Senatorial College Scholarships
- Co-Founder, First Black Minority Owned Bank in Prince George's County, The Prince George's Community Bank
- Led the fight on Senior Citizen Issues
- Led the fight for Juvenile Prevention Services
- Led the fight for Low and Moderate Income Housing
- Led the fight to fund Historically Black Colleges and Universities
- Led the fight to renovate Fairmont Heights High School
- Obtained funding for the Glenarden Branch Library
- Obtained funding for the Prince George's County Club Recreation Center and Ballroom
- Obtained funding for the Bladensburg Marina

- Obtained funding for the Bowie State University's Library and Student Union Buildings
- A leading force in electing Steny Hoyer to Congress
- A leading force in electing Parris Glendening as Prince George's County Executive

B. Appointments

Responsible for the Appointment of the First Black American(s) as:

- Democratic Precinct Coordinators
- State Board of Election Supervisors
- District Court Judge, Prince George's County
- Liquor Inspector
- Park and Planning Commissioner
- Washington-Suburban Sanitary Commissioner (who later became chairman
- Prince George's County Councilman, 2 years (who later became elected chairman)
- Maryland State Human Relations Commissioner (who later became chairman)
- Co-Chairman of the Democratic Platform Committee
- Female Public Defender, Prince George's County
- Precinct Chairman (24 appointments)
- Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority

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A History of Commitment to Community Renewal and Outreach

- Secured 7.5 million dollars in funds to renovate Fairmont Heights Senior High School, consequently, saving it from closure.
- Raised over 3 million dollars for the construction of the Public Library in Glenarden, Maryland
- Secured 4 million dollars in order to renovate the Belle Haven Apartment dwellings for low and moderate-income families.
- Was instrumental in getting apartments for low and moderate-income families and senior citizens, such as the Pleasant Homes Apartment complex
- Secured needed funding for the Prince George's County Chapel Oaks Fire Department
- Raised 3.5 million dollars in funds for the construction of the Prince George's Recreation Center and Ballroom
- Funding was made possible for the Theresa D. Banks Memorial Swimming Pool
- Funding was made possible for the Newton White Mansion in Mitchellville, Maryland
- Funding was made possible for the Library and Student Union Building at Bowie State College in Bowie, Maryland
- Served as "guest speaker" at annual graduations, community, business and political functions

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Per request, for the Archive's new **Living History** series

Personal Impressions and Most Significant Contribution(s)

The most successful political leaders never forget their roots and the people who have helped them along the road to success and accomplishment. I have never felt as though I had to limit my sense of community spirit and service to causes and concerns associated only with the 24th Legislative District.

People want clear direction and leadership. They want solutions and answers to their problems and needs. During the Broadwater Administration, people got those things. They enjoyed delivery on a promise.

People want their fair share of the American Dream. They want their communities upwardly mobile. I have always tried to be a servant of the people.

The Washington Post newspaper once said that Tommie Broadwater is the "longtime voice for working class blacks in the county." I'd like to think that while I served in the Maryland Senate, I was the type of senator who **delivered on a promise** (my significant contribution).

Most Significant Contributions

My “most” significant contribution to the Maryland Senate can be summarized in two (2) parts:

- (1) “As the first Black Senator, elected outside of Baltimore, Maryland, in the State of Maryland, I served as a trail blazer and pioneer, and in doing so, carved a path of opportunity for other black political hopefuls to enter the political arena as candidates in the process; and

- (2) I led the fight to galvanize the black and white communities toward working together in order to reach common goals, and objectives for their respective communities and in politics, as well.

Broadwater's Continued Commitment

During the past 15 years, Tommie Broadwater, II, has continued to meet and work with Maryland State and Prince George's elected officials, such as, Governor Parris Glendening; County Executive, Wayne Curry; State Senator, Nathaniel Exum; Maryland Congressmen Steny Hoyer and Albert Wynn; and other community and state leaders to:

- Improve Prince George's County Public Schools
- Reduce Crime and to Improve Police and Community Relations
- Stimulate Job Opportunities
- Stimulate Minority Economic Development
- Improve Affordable Housing Conditions
- Increase Drug Education and Treatment
- Increase Community Recreational Programs and Services, and
- Aide Minorities Seeking Scholarships for Higher Education