



John Goodwin Tower

Party: Republican • **Chamber:** Senate

State: TX

Biography

A Senator from Texas. Born in Houston, Harris County, Tex. , September 29, 1925. Educated in the public schools of Houston and Beaumont, Tex. Enlisted in the Navy during the Second World War in 1943, saw action in the Pacific, and was discharged with the rank of seaman first class in 1946. Graduated from Southwestern University, Georgetown, Tex. , 1948, and with a graduate degree from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Tex. , 1953. Attended London School of Economics and Political Science. Member of the faculty of Midwestern University, Wichita Falls, Tex. , 1951-1960. Elected as a Republican to the United States Senate, May 27, 1961, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Lyndon B. Johnson for the term ending January 3, 1967. Reelected in 1966, 1972 and 1978 and served from June 15, 1961, to January 3, 1985. Did not seek reelection. Chairman, Republican Policy Committee (Ninety-third through Ninety-eighth Congresses), Committee on Armed Services (Ninety-seventh and Ninety-eighth Congresses). Appointed a member of the United States arms negotiation team in Geneva, Switzerland, by President Ronald Reagan 1985. Chairman, President's Special Review Board ("Tower Commission") 1987. Appointed Secretary of Defense in 1989 by President George Bush but not confirmed. Chairman, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board 1989. Was a resident of Dallas, Tex. , until his death in a plane crash near Brunswick, Ga. , April 5, 1991. Interment in Hillcrest Mausoleum, Dallas, Tex.

Legislative Activity (–)

Bills sponsored: 0

Bills cosponsored: 0