

= Joseph Tydings =

Joseph Davies Tydings (born May 4 , 1928) is a former Democratic member of the United States Senate , representing the state of Maryland from 1965 to 1971 .

Born in North Carolina , Tydings moved to Maryland as a youth after he was adopted by Millard Tydings , U.S. Senator from Maryland . After serving in the military , he obtained his law degree and entered into practice . He served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1955 to 1961 , and as United States Attorney from 1961 until his resignation in 1963 to run for Senate .

Tydings won election to the Senate in 1964 . However , his controversial stances on gun control and crime in the District of Columbia cost him re @-@ election in 1970 . He made another attempt at his old seat in 1976 , but was defeated in the Democratic primary election by Paul Sarbanes . He later served as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland , College Park and the University System of Maryland , and continues to practice law .

= = Early life = =

Tydings was born in Asheville , North Carolina , but attended the public schools of Aberdeen , Maryland . He was adopted as a child by his stepfather , Millard Tydings , who also was a Maryland Senator . His maternal grandfather was Joseph E. Davies , who served as U.S. Ambassador to Belgium , Luxembourg , and the Soviet Union . Tydings went on to graduate from the McDonogh School in 1946 , the University of Maryland , College Park in 1950 where he became a brother of Alpha Phi Omega , and the University of Maryland School of Law in 1953 .

Following the Second World War , Tydings served as a corporal in the Sixth Constabulary Regiment of the United States Army 's European occupation . After his service , he was admitted to the bar in 1952 and was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1955 from Harford County , Maryland .

Tydings served as a delegate until 1961 , when he was appointed United States Attorney for Maryland by President John F. Kennedy , a close friend . As U.S. Attorney , Tydings oversaw the prosecution of several people in the savings and loan business . In 1963 , Tydings served as the United States representative at the Interpol Conference in Helsinki , Finland , and at the International Penal Conference in Bellagio , Italy .

= = 1964 United States Senate election = =

In the 1964 elections , Tydings was frequently mentioned as a potential candidate to compete for the United States Senate seat of Republican J. Glenn Beall , Sr. While initially hesitant , Tydings resigned as U.S. Attorney on November 21 , 1963 to test his political support across the state . On January 14 , 1964 , Tydings officially declared his candidacy , stating he was challenging the " old guard " of the Maryland Democratic Party political machine . He also said he would work to bring a " new era of leadership into Maryland " .

During the primary election in May 1964 , Tydings faced Maryland Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein , who had won the endorsement of both J. Millard Tawes , Governor of Maryland , and Daniel Brewster , the other U.S. Senator from Maryland . Despite the support of the party leaders , Goldstein was trounced by Tydings in the primary , losing by nearly a two @-@ to @-@ one margin .

Having secured his party 's nomination , Tydings moved forward to face Beall in the general election . The final election results gave Tydings nearly 63 % of 1 @,@ 081 @,@ 042 votes cast . His large margin of victory was due at least in part to the landslide win by fellow Democrat Lyndon B. Johnson for President in the same election , which likely increased voter turnout .

Upon his election , Tydings began to lay out his legislative agenda for his upcoming term , which included water conservation , pollution and air purity , and mass transportation . He also expressed interest in serving on the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia . Tydings was permitted to serve on the committee , and was eventually appointed chairman in 1969 .

= = Bid for re @-@ election = =

Leading up to the elections of 1970 , Tydings faced criticism from both parties for his actions as senator . In July 1970 , syndicated columnist Marquis Childs noted that Tydings ' problems on the left stemmed from his support of a crime bill for the District of Columbia , which was perceived as repressive against African Americans . There was also criticism directed at the bill for writing into law the practices of preventive detention and no knock warrants .

Tydings ' difficulties with the right stemmed from his sponsorship of the Firearms Registration and Licensing Act , which would have required the registration of firearms . An avid hunter himself , his efforts agitated the gun lobby and the NRA . One Maryland activist group , Citizens Against Tydings , was formed solely because of Tydings ' gun registration platform . Further complicating his relations with the right were the efforts by the American Security Council Foundation , which graded him as a " zero " on national security issues and spent over \$ 150 @,@ 000 to campaign against his bid for re @-@ election .

In the Democratic primary , Tydings was challenged by perennial candidate and Dixiecrat George P. Mahoney and two others . After a divisive campaign , Tydings beat Mahoney by 53 % to 37 % .

For the general election , Tydings ' opponent was freshman Congressman J. Glenn Beall , Jr. from Western Maryland , the son of J. Glenn Beall , Sr. , whom Tydings had defeated in 1964 . Beall 's campaign strategy " leaned heavily on his affable , noncontroversial personality " and avoided turning the campaign negative . As a result of Tydings ' unpopularity and Beall 's campaign strategy , Tydings was defeated 51 % to 48 % .

In a review of the election , The Washington Post noted one of Tydings ' major problems was identifying with his constituents . Despite the 3 @-@ 1 advantage of registered Democrats versus Republicans in the state , Tydings had been labeled as an " ultraliberal " by many Marylanders , and Vice President Spiro Agnew , formerly the Governor of Maryland , had called Tydings " radical " while campaigning for Beall . Tydings was also wealthy , and was seen as having an " aloof " disposition .

= = Return to politics = =

Tydings resumed his legal career after he lost his Senate seat , entering into practice with a Washington law firm that included Giant Food President Joseph Danzansky . After several years out of politics , he began traveling the state in 1975 to gauge his chances for winning a rematch versus Beall , who was coming up for re @-@ election in 1976 . On January 10 , 1976 , Tydings announced his candidacy to retake the seat , which he argued was taken unfairly in 1970 due to an undisclosed \$ 180 @,@ 000 gift to the Beall campaign .

In the primary , Tydings faced a strong challenge from Congressman Paul Sarbanes , who had entered the race several months earlier . This head start gave Sarbanes a considerable organizational and monetary advantage , and he had already secured influential endorsements . To fend off Sarbanes , Tydings hoped his name recognition and charisma on television would compensate for Sarbanes ' other advantages . He also worked to relabel himself as more fiscally conservative than Sarbanes , since both candidates were seen as liberal .

For the primary election , Tydings needed a large margin of victory from precincts in the Washington , D.C. suburbs of Prince George 's and Montgomery Counties , where he was most popular . However , despite Tydings winning both counties , Sarbanes performed well in the rest of the state and defeated Tydings by over 100 @,@ 000 votes , 61 % to 39 % . Sarbanes had managed to outspend Tydings two @-@ to @-@ one during the campaign . After defeating Tydings , Sarbanes won the general election and served as senator until 2007 .

= = Post @-@ Senate career = =

After defeat , Tydings returned to his law career at Danzansky 's firm . He also worked as a partner

in the law firm of Finley , Kumble , Wagner , Underberg , Manley , Myerson & Casey , which collapsed in 1987 . Later , Tydings worked at Anderson Kill Olick & Oshinsky from 1988 until his departure with Jerold Oshinsky in 1996 to join Dickstein Shapiro in Washington , D.C. As of 2008 , he is a senior counsel at Dickstein Shapiro .

In academics , Tydings was a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland from 1974 to 1984 , serving as chairman from 1982 to 1984 ; it became University of Maryland , College Park in 1988 . In 1977 , Tydings called for the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland to divest its endowment from companies doing business with the apartheid regime in South Africa . He later served as a member of Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland from 2000 to 2005 . In September 2008 , he was appointed by Maryland Governor Martin O 'Malley to the board of the University of Maryland Medical System . As of 2016 , he resides in Harford County , Maryland .