



Ambassador Mark Wylea Erwin

The United States Ambassador to Mauritius, Seychelles and Comoros, Mark Wylea Erwin, was appointed to this position by President William Jefferson Clinton and was confirmed by the United States Senate in July, 1999.

Prior to taking up his post as Ambassador, Erwin was the President of Erwin Capital, Inc., a trade and investment company based in Charlotte, North Carolina. Since 1978, his company has invested in and developed numerous properties including shopping centers, business parks, office buildings and mixed-use developments.

In 1997, President Clinton appointed Ambassador Erwin to the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). This organization operates a \$ 20 billion portfolio of insurance and loans for American companies doing business overseas and promotes the foreign policy of the United States through the Department of State.

Over the years, Mr. Erwin has been active in civic affairs and has served on the boards of over thirty civic, charitable and educational organizations. He has been an adjunct professor at the Business School of Winthrop University in South Carolina, where he received an honorary doctorate of Humane Letters in 1994. He was also selected as Man of the Year in Lake Wylie, SC in 1994, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the Lions Club and the Mayor's Award for Service in Charlotte, NC. In 1989, Mr. Erwin was recognized by the legislature in the State of South Carolina for outstanding service to the State.

Ambassador Erwin was born in Coral Gables, Florida, and is an alumnus of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1961 to 1965. He is married to Joan Payne Erwin, and they have two daughters, Jennifer Ann and Melissa Joan.



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