

## Albert Arnold Gore, Sr.

Albert A. Gore Sr. (December 26, 1907- December 6, 1998) was a former U.S. Senator and the father of Vice President Al Gore. Gore, a Democrat, served as a U.S. representative for Tennessee from 1939 through 1952 and senator from 1953 until 1970, when his opposition to the Vietnam War led to his defeat.



In 1956, he was suggested as a presidential possibility. At the 1956 convention he was, instead, nominated for vice president but withdrew and fellow Tennessee Sen. Estes Kefauver became the running mate of Adlai Stevenson.

His son followed in his political footsteps, serving in the House and Senate before unsuccessfully seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988. Bill Clinton chose him as his vice presidential running mate four years later.

Gore was the chief Senate architect of the 1956 Federal Highway Aid Act and the Highway Revenue Act. They authorized \$31.5 billion in federal and state aid to build 42,500 miles of interstate highways. He fought against the GOP plan to finance the highways with bonds and got pay-as-you-go taxes on fuel, tires, and trucks.

Some called him a moderate on civil rights. He refused to sign the 1956 Southern Manifesto, which advocated resistance to school desegregation; in 1964, he voted against a civil rights bill, but urged Tennessee to obey it after it passed.

President John F. Kennedy in 1962 named Gore, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, as a U.S. delegate to a session of the United Nations.

He helped negotiate a limited nuclear test ban ratified in 1963.

Gore opposed Kennedy's 1963 \$11 billion tax cut. He argued that it would stir up a conservative movement to cut spending as well. He backed Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society social welfare programs, but opposed the Vietnam War.

Gore was born in Jackson County on Dec. 26, 1907. He attended Gordonsville High School, Murfreesboro Teachers College, and the University of Tennessee. He served as superintendent of schools for Smith County from 1932 to 1936.

He received a law degree by attending the Nashville YMCA Night Law School and began law practice in 1936 at Carthage. Carthage was the hometown of

Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and Gore in Congress often was called a protege of Hull.

He raised black angus cattle on his farm about 50 miles east of Nashville, and was a partner in a seed mill and hardware store in Carthage.

In 1947, Gore opposed a constitutional amendment to limit a president to two terms. He called it "a definite restricting on the freedom of choice of our children and our children's children."

After a 1951 trip to Turkey, Gore warned that the United States can't solve all the problems of the world. "We cannot feed them all, neither can we guarantee their liberties," he said.

In his 1952 Senate campaign, reacting to a charge he was a soldier who never had been shot at, Gore said he was proud of his service record.

He said he waived any congressional draft deferment and was drafted Dec. 29, 1943. He reported to Camp Shelby, Miss., on Jan. 19, 1944, but at the request of President Franklin D. Roosevelt he transferred to the inactive reserve and returned to Congress.

Gore resigned from Congress and went on active duty Dec. 4, 1944. He was assigned to a military government detachment and took part in the battle to cross the Ruhr River. He filed a report with the Pentagon on restoration of civil government in occupied towns, got an honorable discharge, and returned to Congress.

Republican Bill Brock defeated him in 1970. Under fire for his dovish stand on Vietnam and his votes against two Southern nominees for the U.S. Supreme Court, he did well in middle Tennessee, but Brock got the west Tennessee conservative vote.

Gore taught law at Vanderbilt University from 1970 to 1972. His book, "The Eye of the Storm: A People's Policies for the Seventies," was published in 1970.

Gore met his wife, Pauline LaFon Gore, while she was working as a waitress in Nashville to pay her way through Vanderbilt University law school. She was one of the school's first women graduates. They were married in 1937 and for a time operated a joint practice at Carthage. She also ran his Washington office when he was serving in the war.

\*Jackson County Tennessee by Moldon Jenkins Tayse 1989. Pg. 130  
Senator Albert Gore, Sr. was born on December 26, 1907 near Granville, in Jackson County. He had a cousin, John J. Gore, who was a federal judge for the

Middle Tennessee District. Albert Gore, Jr. presently serves as Senator for Tennessee.

<http://janus.mtsu.edu/>

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

Born 26 December 1907 near Granville, Tennessee, to Allen and Margie Gore...

At age two, relocated with family to Carthage, Tennessee...

Attended one-room school house at Possum Hollow...

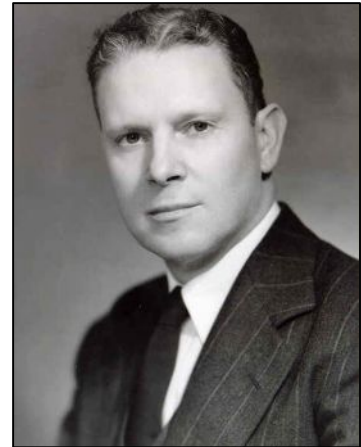
1932 graduate of Middle Tennessee State College...

Served as school superintendent for Smith County...

Attended YMCA Law School in Nashville...

Married Pauline LaFon in 1937...

Opened law office with his wife in Carthage...



In 1937, served as Tennessee Commissioner of Labor under Governor Gordon Browning...

Elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 1938...

In 1943-1944, became the first congressman to serve in the Army during World War II...

In 1952, defeated incumbent Kenneth McKellar for U. S. Senate seat...

Refused to sign the Southern Manifesto in 1956...

Introduced the Interstate Highway Act in the Senate in 1956...

In 1956, briefly considered for Democratic vice-presidential slot on Adlai Stevenson ticket...

Re-elected to the Senate in 1958 and 1964...

Criticized the Johnson administration's policy of escalation in Vietnam...

Targeted as first priority for Richard Nixon's "Southern Strategy"...

Defeated by Republican Bill Brock in 1970 campaign...

Practiced law in Carthage and taught at Vanderbilt University Law School, 1970-1972...

Chairman of Island Creek Coal Company, 1972-1983...

Died at 90 years old, December 1998.

**Congressman Albert Gore (Sr.)** was swimming with his daughter on his back in Bloomington Springs Lake Sunday afternoon when he spotted an 11-year-old boy floundering in the middle of the lake. He quickly swam to shore, deposited his daughter, and then went to the youth's rescue, witnesses say. Aug. 24, 1941: Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN.

**Allen Arnold Gore Obt.**

b. 20 May 1869, Smith Co., TN – d. 3 March 1956, Carthage, Smith Co., TN, md **Margie Elizabeth “Bettie” Denney**, b. 23 October 1878, Smith Co., TN – d. 10 July 1963, near Brush Creek, TN, d/o **Wiley Brown Denney** (1839-1922) & **Elizabeth Waggoner** (1846-1892). Allen Arnold Gore, s/o **Charles Claiborne Gore Sr.** (1840-1912) & **Elizabeth “Besty” Robinson** (1840-1924). Charles Claiborne Gore, Sr., was the son of Mounce Gore and Rebecca (Simcock) Gore, the husband of Elizabeth (Robinson) Gore, and the father of Mounce Gore, Mattie Dixie Gore, James S. Gore, Fannie Gore, Lemuel Gore, Allen Arnold Gore, Betty Gore, John J. Gore, Margaret Gore, William Gore, and Charles Claiborne Gore, Jr. He was also the great-grandfather of Vice-President Al Gore.

**Death Claims Father Of Sen. Albert Gore:**

Allen Gore, 86, father of U. S. Sen. Albert Gore, died yesterday at his home in Carthage.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at the New Salem Baptist church, Elmwood, TN. The Rev. H. C. Vanderpool, pastor, and the Rev. Phocian Gibbs conducted the services. Burial was in Ridgewood cemetery in Carthage, TN.

Mr. Gore had been in poor health about two years. He became seriously ill of pneumonia Thursday.

With the exception of two years in Jackson county, Mr. Gore spent all his adult life as a farmer in the Grant community. He was a native of Smith county.

Senator Gore flew to Carthage from Washington Friday night and was at his father's bedside at the time of death.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: 1 March 1956.

**Albert Arnold "Al" Gore, Sr.**

<http://www.geni.com/people/Sen-Albert-Arnold-Al-Gore-Sr/6000000003626847732>

Albert Arnold "Al" Gore, Sr. (December 26, 1907 – December 5, 1998) was an American politician, serving as a U.S. Representative and a U.S. Senator for the Democratic Party from Tennessee. ----- Gore was born in Granville, Tennessee, the third of five children of Allen Gore and Maggie Denny Gore. Gore's patrilineal ancestors were

Scots-Irish who first settled in Virginia in the mid 17th-century and moved to Tennessee after the Revolutionary War.[1][fn 1]

Gore studied at Middle Tennessee State Teachers College and graduated from the Nashville Y.M.C.A. Night Law School, now the Nashville School of Law. He first sought elective public office at age 23, when he ran unsuccessfully for the job of superintendent of schools in Smith County, Tennessee. A year later he was appointed to the position after the man who had defeated him died.[3]

After serving as Tennessee Commissioner of Labor from 1936 to 1937 Gore was elected as a Democrat to the 76th Congress in 1938, re-elected to the two succeeding Congresses, and served from January 3, 1939 until his resignation on December 4, 1944 to enter the U.S. Army.

Gore was re-elected to the 79th and to the three succeeding Congresses (January 3, 1945 to January 3, 1953). In 1951, Gore proposed in Congress that "something cataclysmic" be done by U.S. forces to end the Korean War: a radiation belt (created by nuclear weapons) dividing the Korean peninsula permanently into two.[4]

Gore was not a candidate for re-election but was elected in 1952 to the U.S. Senate. In his 1952 election, he defeated six-term incumbent Kenneth McKellar. Gore's victory, coupled with that of Frank G. Clement for governor of Tennessee over incumbent Gordon Browning on the same day, is widely regarded as a major turning point in Tennessee political history and as marking the end of statewide influence for E. H. Crump, the Memphis political boss.

During this term, Gore was instrumental in sponsoring and enacting the legislation creating the Interstate Highway System. Gore was re-elected in 1958 and again in 1964, and served from January 3, 1953, to January 3, 1971, after he lost reelection in 1970. In the Senate, he was chairman of the Special Committee on Attempts to Influence Senators during the 84th Congress.

Gore was one of only three Democratic senators from the 11 former Confederate states who did not sign the 1956 Southern Manifesto opposing integration, the other two being Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (who was not asked to sign) and Gore's fellow Tennessean Estes Kefauver, who refused to sign. South Carolina Senator J. Strom Thurmond tried to get Gore to sign the Southern Manifesto, Gore refused. Gore could not, however, be regarded as an out-and-out integrationist, having voted against some major civil rights legislation including the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

He did support the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He had easily won renomination in 1958 over former governor of Tennessee Jim Nance McCord, which at that point was still tantamount to election (because of the traditional weakness of the Republican party in the post-Reconstruction South); by 1964 he faced an energetic Republican challenge from Memphian Dan Kuykendall, who ran a surprisingly strong race against him. By 1970, Gore was considered to be fairly vulnerable for a three-term incumbent Senator, as a result of his liberal positions on many issues such as the Vietnam War and Civil Rights.

This was especially risky, electorally, as at the time Tennessee was moving more and more towards the Republican Party. He faced a spirited primary challenge, predominantly from former Nashville news anchor Hudley Crockett, who used his broadcasting skills to considerable advantage and generally attempted to run to Gore's right. Gore fended off this primary challenge, but he was ultimately unseated in the 1970 general election by Republican Congressman William E. Brock III.

Gore was one of the key targets in the Nixon/Agnew "Southern strategy." He had earned Nixon's ire the year before when he criticized the administration's "do-nothing" policy toward inflation. In a memo<sup>[5]</sup> to senior advisor Bryce Harlow, Nixon aide Alexander Butterfield relayed the President's desire that Gore be "blistered" for his comment.<sup>[6]</sup> Spiro T. Agnew traveled to Tennessee in 1970 to mock Gore as the "Southern regional chairman of the Eastern Liberal Establishment". Other prominent issues in this race included Gore's opposition to the Vietnam War, his vote against Sen. Everett Dirksen's amendment on prayer in public schools, and his opposition to appointing Clement Haynsworth and G. Harrold Carswell to the U.S. Supreme Court. Brock won the election by a 51% to 47% margin.

After leaving Congress, Gore resumed the practice of law with Occidental Petroleum and became vice president and member of the board of directors, taught law at Vanderbilt University 1970–1972. He became chairman of Island Creek Coal Co., Lexington, Kentucky, in 1972, and in his last years operated an antiques store in Carthage. He died three weeks shy of his 91st birthday and is buried in Smith County Memorial Gardens in Carthage. Interstate 65 in the state has been named The Albert Arnold Gore Sr. Memorial Highway in honor of him.

1. Turque (2000), p. 8 2. Turque (2000), p. 378 3. Irvin Molotsky, Albert Gore Sr., Veteran Politician, Dies at 90, New York Times, December 7, 1998 4. George Mason University's History News Network, <http://hnn.us/articles/9245.html>, retrieved 29 December 2009 5. Memo from Alexander Butterfield to Bryce Harlow, July 10, 1969, Nixon Library 6. Radnofsky, Louise (2010-12-10) Documents Show Nixon Ordered Jews Excluded From Israel Policy, Wall Street Journal

\*See more Denny-Gore families at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>