

Standing Up for Progressive Change





Mom, Dad, my brother Phil and I

The Early Years

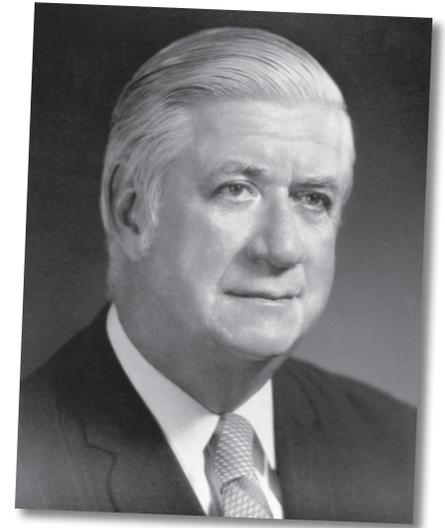
I grew up in Boston with my brother Phil and sister Rosemary. Dad was an insurance salesman, and Mom was a nurse. They taught us to care about our neighbors and about the importance of community service.



...with my brother Phil during my Boy Scout years.

Lessons from Tip O'Neill

Dad was a local Democratic Committeeman and was friends with our Congressman, Tip O'Neill. I can remember listening to my Dad and Tip talking about politics and how to use government to improve the lives of working people.



Congressman Tip O'Neill

Campaigning for John Kennedy

In 1958, my Dad took me along to volunteer on Senator John Kennedy's campaign for reelection. It was a hopeful and exciting time. We could never have imagined the triumphs and tragedy that would occur in the years that followed.

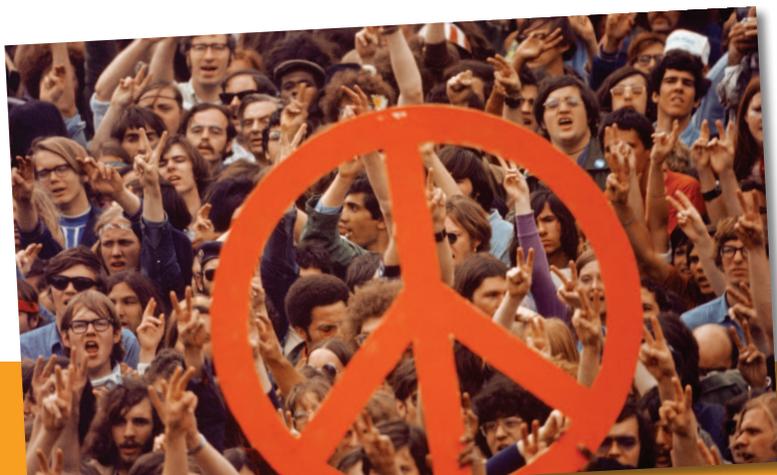
Marching for Civil Rights



Inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr., I marched for civil rights during the 1960s and picketed employers who refused to hire African-Americans. I learned that you have to stand up and fight for your beliefs if you want to make change happen.

Protesting the War in Vietnam

As a college student in Chicago, I protested the war in Vietnam. I was inspired by Bobby Kennedy's new vision for America. After his assassination, I campaigned for Eugene McCarthy and worked to end the war.



Standing up for Women's Rights

The women's movement of the 1970s began to break down barriers in the workplace and debunk myths about the role of women in society. I supported the movement to pass the ERA and have always fought to protect a woman's right to choose.

Working to End Hunger

After college, I came to Washington and worked to end world hunger and promote human rights. I met my wife, Cathy, when we worked together at the *American Freedom from Hunger Foundation*. Later, I served as the Executive Director for the U.S. Committee for Refugees.



During one of my hunger relief missions to Africa.

I battled Reagan Administration policies on Central America.



Fighting the Reagan Administration

After receiving my Master's Degree in public administration from Harvard University, I went to Capitol Hill to work on the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. I spent the 1980s battling against Reagan Administration policies in places like Central America and South Africa. While the administration used arms sales as the principal tool of foreign policy, I advocated a greater role for humanitarian assistance.



I worked on the staff of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

I met my wife, Cathy (far left), when we worked together at the American Freedom from Hunger Foundation.

(I'm the one on the far right with the beard. You can tell it was the '70s!)



...with Cathy on our wedding day.

Starting a Family

Cathy and I were married in 1976, and we settled in Fairfax. In 1991, our daughter Caitlin arrived. She's attended Fairfax County public schools and will be graduating next June. We've spent the last several months looking at colleges.



...with my beautiful baby girl, Caitlin.



Holding Big Oil Accountable

In 1994, I became president of my homeowners' association. I rallied the community when an oil leak from Texaco Star Enterprises was contaminating our soil and groundwater. We held the company accountable, forcing them to clean up the site and compensate homeowners.



I fought Texaco Star Enterprises when they contaminated the soil in our neighborhood.



We help support events like the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and the Walk to Cure Diabetes.

Supporting Charities in Our Community

Since my job as County Chairman is a part-time position, I also have a part-time job at SAIC, a technology company with 15,000 employees in Northern Virginia. I work in their community relations department, helping lead the company's philanthropic work in our area. We have supported the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and sponsor the annual Walk to Cure Diabetes. We fund scholarships for area students, organize an annual robotics competition in Fairfax and Prince William schools, and much more.

Leading Fairfax County

In 1995, I was elected to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and was honored to be elected Chairman in 2003 and reelected in 2007. Through strong, progressive leadership, we have created a vibrant local economy, world-class schools, and a cleaner environment. And we've been named the best managed county in America. Now, I hope you'll give me the opportunity to fight for progressive change in Congress.



GERRY
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The Washington Post

NOVEMBER 2, 2007

*Connolly's "drive and calling to public service
are deeply rooted."*

*He "exudes a sense of mission and responsibility
that rings true..."*

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**Democratic Primary:
Tuesday, June 10**

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