

# BENJAMIN HARRISON



**STATE** - Virginia

**AGE** - 50 (Born: 4/7/1726)

**HOME** - Berkeley Planation, Virginia

**EDUCATION** - College of William & Mary

**FAMILY** - 1 Marriage, 7 Children

**JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS** - Planter, Legislator

**WHAT HE IS LIKE** - Conservative, Fun Lover, Loves Food and Drink, Patriot

**WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA** - Partying with John Hancock

**BEFORE THE CONGRESS** Benjamin Harrison grew up on the family plantation which he took over when his father died. He expanded the family business into ship building and shipping. Like his father, Benjamin became a legislator. He opposed the Stamp Act and became a leader of the Independence Movement in Virginia.

**AT THE CONGRESS** Benjamin Harrison was elected to the Continental Congress in 1774 and made many contributions. He was Chairman of the Committee that debated the Declaration of Independence.

**DATE OF DEATH** 4/24/1791, (65 Years Old)

# BENJAMIN HARRISON

**CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS:** You are the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. After John Hancock calls Congress in session you stand and say: *I turn over today's proceedings to John Adams of Massachusetts.* You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, you object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People because you have friends in England, and you also object to the passage that is critical of slavery because you own slaves. You will agree to accept the Declaration of Independence only if Congress takes the two passages out.

**FINAL VOTING:** After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you proceed to the voting board to keep the official record of the vote. When it is your turn to vote you stand and say: *I, Benjamin Harrison of Virginia vote aye, for the Declaration of Independence.*

After all votes are cast you stand and say: *The Declaration of Independence has passed with a unanimous consent!*

*Benjamin Harrison*