

BUTTON GWINNETT



STATE - Georgia

AGE - 41 (Born: 1735)

HOME - Savannah, Georgia

EDUCATION - Educated by Uncles

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 3 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Businessman

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Bad Businessman, Feisty, Slave Owner

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Grocery Store

BEFORE THE CONGRESS Button Gwinnett grew up in England. He did so much business with people in the colonies that he decided to move to America. When he first arrived he bought a store and worked there but soon tried to become a plantation owner. He was a poor businessman and soon lost his plantation. He was not welcomed as a Patriot at first because he was born in England and still had a lot of friends there. However, in 1775 a friend of his convinced him to become a Patriot and he was elected soon after to the Continental Congress.

At the Congress Although Button was at the Continental Congress only 10 weeks, he did get to sign the Declaration of Independence.

DATE OF DEATH 5/15/1777, (42 Years Old)

BUTTON GWINNETT

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: 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 were born 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.

AT THE SIGNING: After the passages are taken out and the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, Button Gwinnett of Georgia, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

Button Gwinnett