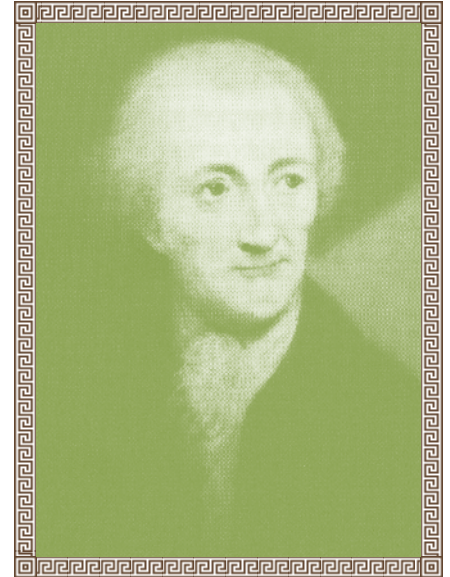


GEORGE READ



STATE - Delaware

AGE - 42 (Born: 9/18/1733)

HOME - New Castle, Delaware

EDUCATION - Local Schools, Law School

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 5 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Lawyer

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Conservative, Cautious, Undecided, Patriot, Dignified

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Stradling the fence!

BEFORE THE CONGRESS George Read grew up in Delaware where his father was a wealthy land owner. He attended local schools and then studied law with a Philadelphia lawyer. Once he became a lawyer, he built a successful practice and had clients coming to his office from as far away as Maryland. George was elected to the colony's legislature where he opposed the Stamp Act. However, George was conservative about his opposition to England.

AT THE CONGRESS George Read arrived at the Continental Congress in 1774. While at the Congress, George did not favor independence because he thought there was still a chance that America and Great Britain could make up. He was the only signer who voted against independence.

DATE OF DEATH 9/21/1798, (65 Years Old)

GEORGE READ

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You think it is too soon to declare independence. You will not vote for the Declaration of Independence but do not oppose the Congress passing the document. You are the only delegate who voted against the Declaration to sign it!

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, George Read of Delaware, vote nay against the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Geo. Read". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.