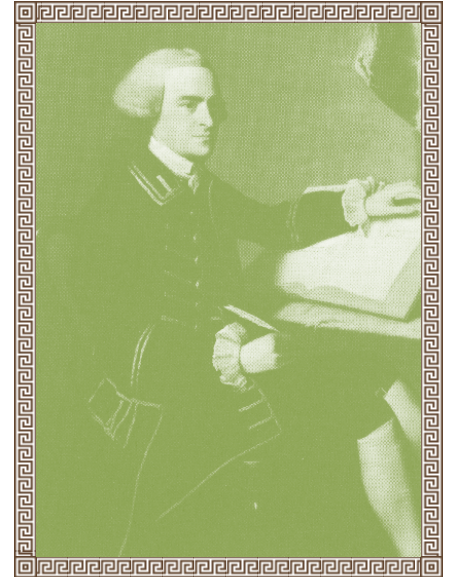


JOHN HANCOCK



STATE - Massachusetts

AGE - 39 (Born: 1/12/1737)

HOME - Boston, Massachusetts

EDUCATION - Harvard College

FAMILY - 1 Marriage, 2 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Businessman

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Rich, Conceited, Great Clothes

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Wining, Dining and Shopping

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Hancock grew up in Boston and was raised by a rich uncle who left John his business, his home and his money. John realized that his business would do better if America was free, so he became a leader of the Independence Movement. When Hancock did not pay his taxes, the British took one of his ships and accused him of being a smuggler. John Adams defended him in court and Hancock got his ship back and became a hero to all Patriots. On the night before the Battle of Lexington and Concord, John Hancock and Samuel Adams were almost captured by the British but they escaped and went to Philadelphia.

AT THE CONGRESS John Hancock was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress and soon after he arrived he became the President of the Congress. He was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence. John signed his name in very big letters so the King could read his name without his glasses.

DATE OF DEATH 10/8/1793, (56 Years Old)

JOHN HANCOCK

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are the President of the Congress so you sit in the front and bang the gavel to start the Congress. After banging the gavel you say: *The Second Continental Congress is called to order!* You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People, and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *I, John Hancock of Massachusetts, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

AT THE SIGNING: You are the first to sign the Declaration and after signing your name very large you say: *I wrote so large so the King could read my name without his glasses!!!*

A large, stylized cursive signature of John Hancock in green ink. The signature is written in a highly decorative, flowing script with long, sweeping lines and a prominent flourish at the end.