

Governor Agnew received his formal education in the public schools of Baltimore City, The Johns Hopkins University, where he studied chemistry for three years before turning to law, and the University of Baltimore, where he received his Bachelor of Laws degree in 1947 after returning from service in the Army. He also holds honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from the University of Maryland and Morgan State College.

During World War II he was a company commander with the 10th Armored Division in the European Theater of Operations. He was recalled for an additional year of Army service during the Korean War.

The Governor became interested in public affairs as a practicing attorney in Baltimore County and as president of the Loch Raven Community Council. He was active in moves to obtain open spaces legislation in the county and also in the successful drive for charter "home rule" government which replaced the Board of County Commissioners in 1957 with a full-time County Executive and Council.

In 1957 he was appointed minority member of the County Board of Appeals, which hears zoning appeals, and later became its chairman. His ouster in 1961 by the Democratic-controlled County Council, despite widespread backing from civic organizations, brought his name to new prominence and led him to run the following year for County Executive. He won despite a Democratic registration edge of nearly 4 to 1.

Under his administration, Baltimore County became one of the first in the nation to enact a public accommodations law and also passed legislation to require "open spaces" for park and recreational use in all new subdivisions.

The Agnew administration provided 60 miles of new water supply lines, 120 miles of sanitary sewage lines, and built new schools, improved teacher salaries, reduced the pupil-teacher classroom ratio by fourteen percent, began public kindergartens, reorganized the police bureau and pioneered in community college curricula to fill employment gaps in the fields of police work and social services.

During his first year in office, he was elected a director of the National Association of Counties and subsequently represented the association at Congressional hearings.

In 1966, County Executive Agnew, with the full endorsement of Maryland Republican leaders, ran for governor. He handily won the primary and on November 8, 1966, the day before his 48th birthday, he was elected governor by a margin of 81,775 votes over his Democratic opponent in a three-way race.

The Governor was married in 1942 to the former Elinor Isabel Judefind of Baltimore, whose father, the late Dr. W. Lee Judefind, was a chemist and vice president of the Davison Chemical Company. They have four children, Pamela, born July 5, 1943, Randy, born September 9, 1946, Susan, born October 23, 1947, and Kimberly, born December 9, 1955.

Governor Agnew retains his membership in the Loch Raven Kiwanis Club, the Parkville post of the American Legion, and his Greek community affiliations in the Order of Ahepa. He was brought up in the Episcopal faith. The Governor is an avid golfer, and a fan of the professional Baltimore Colts and Baltimore Orioles. He also enjoys reading, listening to music and playing the piano for relaxation.