



# Patty Murray

## Quick Facts

**Birth:** October 11, 1950  
Bothell, WA

**Death:**

**Occupation:** Former Instructor, Shoreline Community College

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat

**Years served:** 1989-1993

**Office:** Senator,  
US Senator 1993-present

**District:** 1 (King, Snohomish Counties)

“That’s the problem, building a political career. What we’ve done is put a whole bunch of people in the U.S. Senate who have built a political career. You know what happens when you build a political career? You owe people all along the way. You get back there and you owe a lot of people and you can’t accomplish anything.”

-Senator Patty Murray

The Seattle Times September 4, 1992

## Personal:

- Born and raised in North King County
- Married with 2 children
- Shoreline Community College Instructor, 1984-87
- Cooperative Preschool Teacher, 1977-84
- Worked as a citizen lobbyist for environmental and educational issues, 1983-1988

## Education:

- Washington State University, B.A. in recreational therapy
- Shoreline Community College, parent-education certificate

## Community Service:

- Shoreline School Board, director and 2 term board president (1985-89)

## Affiliations:

- Organization for Parent Education in Washington , founder

## Awards:

## Legislative & State Service:

**Committees:** (1989) Economic Development and Labor; Education; Transportation (1991) Commerce and Labor; Education; Ways and Means

**Leadership, Position & Appointments:**

- Democratic Whip (1991)
- Washington States first woman U.S. Senator. When she ran there were only 2 women in the 100 member U.S. Senate.
- Ran against Representative Linda Smith in the 1998 general election. Patty Murray won by 58.41% of the vote.

**Sources:**

- “This woman’s place is in the house, and Senate,” by Judy Van Deen, The Seattle Times, July 26, 1989.
- “Differences, not similarities, make Murray effective legislator,” by Bob Baumgartner, Northshore Citizen, March 14, 1990.
- “The ‘mom’ against all those ‘dark suits’,” by Mark Matassa, The Seattle Times, September 4, 1992.