



THE CITY OF BRUNSWICK MARYLAND

1 WEST POTOMAC STREET · BRUNSWICK, MARYLAND 21716 · (301) 834-7500

Distinguished Citizen biography for:

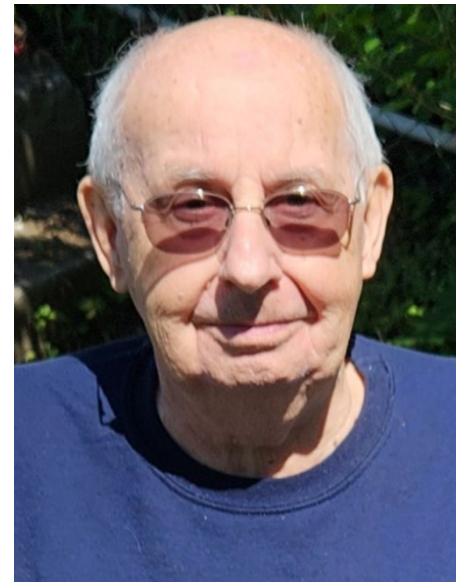
Richard “Dick” Goodrich

b. 1941

Honored as a Distinguished Citizen in 2026

Dick Goodrich was born on November 12, 1941, in Hagerstown, Maryland, where his father Ray “Punk” Goodrich was employed by the Western Maryland Railroad as an engineer. Later that same year, the family moved to Brunswick, a more convenient location for Ray’s work. Ray’s wife Mable stayed home and raised their three children, Barbara, Dick, and Donna.

Dick’s parents separated when he was about 10 years old, with his father moving to Cumberland, but he and his father maintained a close relationship. Whenever his father’s locomotive arrived in town, Dick recognized his signature horn blast – 3 long blasts followed by 2 short ones – and he would run down to the railroad to meet him. His mother sold baked goods and the three children sold vegetables from their garden to help meet expenses.



In those days, Maple Avenue was the dividing line between Brunswick’s East End and West End Elementary Schools. Although the Goodrich’s lived just on the east side of Maple Avenue, he somehow got enrolled in the West End School. Upon entering the 5th grade, he was transferred to the East End School. The following year, the new consolidated elementary school on Central Avenue opened, and Dick spent one year there, thus being one of the few people who could say that they attended all three elementary schools in Brunswick.

In high school, he was heavily involved in athletics, playing on the soccer, basketball, track (where he was fastest when running barefoot), and baseball teams. He was also in the Glee Club (being coerced there by a teacher who felt it was important for athletes to be more well-rounded), and he was elected President of the Student Council his senior year.

Dick got his first job at PEPCO in Dickerson a few months after graduating from high school in 1959, working there as an office clerk. He wanted to become a Certified Public Accountant, but his financial circumstances dictated otherwise. In addition to his job at PEPCO, he “became an entrepreneur,” continuing to sell vegetables from his garden and selling TV Guides house to house for 15 cents, of which he got to keep 4 cents. He continued doing this for 2 or 3 years after graduating from high school.



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On April 5, 1963, Dick married his high school sweetheart Pat Dinterman. They purchased the house he had been raised in from his mother, and they are still living there today after 63 years of marriage. Eventually, Dick and Pat would have two children, Chris and Richard (“Rick”).

In 1966, during the Viet Nam War, Dick was drafted into the Army Reserve. At age 26, he found it difficult to keep up with the younger recruits during basic training at Ft. Dix. However, it was during his six years of reserve duty that he became acquainted with Ron Shafer, who would have a significant effect on his life later.

In 1967, Dick found employment with IBM and Lockheed-Martin, working with finances and facility management until he retired in 2006. But it was not his nature to be “retired.” While at IBM, Dick had taken classes at FCC. He found the courses to be “useless,” and he gave up on his desire to become a CPA. However, he was still interested in accounting. Sensing this interest, Ron Shafer taught him how to prepare taxes while they were in the reserves together.

One day while still working at IBM, he was visiting Wanda Nuse, who expressed her frustration with taxes. He volunteered to help and subsequently helped her and many other local senior citizens to prepare their tax returns for free for several years. He also prepared financial reviews for the non-profits Park Heights Cemetery and BEACON (including its subsidiaries the Food Bank and the Emergency Relief Fund) from 2007 to 2021. Eventually, Dick got a job with Jim George, CPA, and he became a Certified Maryland Tax Preparer in 2016.

Dick Goodrich’s interest in sports dates back to 1954 when, at age 12, he joined Brunswick’s first Little League team. His mother helped run the concession stand. The following year, although not living in Brunswick, his dad helped get Brunswick registered in the national Babe Ruth League (for 13-15 year olds), which Dick would participate in for the next three years. After graduating from the Babe Ruth League, he played baseball with an adult Brunswick team that competed with other nearby adult teams.

Then Dick transitioned from player to organizer. In the early 1970’s, he organized a T-ball team in Brunswick, the first in Frederick County, with some financial support from his employer, IBM. He recalls using PVC pipe and old radiator hoses for the stands. Other towns soon caught on and soon, a 9-10 year-old Little League tournament was organized. Although baseball created activities for Brunswick’s youth during the summer, Dick was aware of a lack of activities during the winter, so he met with the Ministerial Association and started the Church Basketball League. Teams from 6 churches participated. His involvement with little league baseball continued, too. He coached for PVYA and was involved with Little League teams as they took several state championships and went to the National Championships in Williamsport, PA, in 1986.

Dick claims he was never really interested in politics, but when he became aware of a proposal for tax and water rate increases without an acceptable explanation, his financial eyebrows raised, and he soon found himself being nominated by a group of like-minded citizens to run for mayor in a recall election in October 1990, which he won decisively. In addition to completing the last two



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years of that term, Dick was re-elected in the following election and served another two years until pressure at work caused him to resign as mayor.

As mayor, in addition to tightening up the budgetary process of the City, Dick was instrumental in obtaining state funding for a new water plant, purchasing a new ladder truck for the fire company, negotiating with the county to have them transfer what is now the City Annex Building on Park Avenue to the City, and getting state funding for a new community center at City Park on East Potomac Street.

Dick and Pat have two children, Chris (married to Glenn Ashton) and Richard (“Rick”), and one grandson, Grant Ashton.

The Mayor and Council and the Brunswick History Commission are proud to honor Dick Goodrich as a Distinguished Citizen of Brunswick, Maryland.