

## MIKHAIL S. GORBACHEV

Mikhail Gorbachev's career started in his native Stavropol', in southwest Russia. In 1978, he was promoted to Moscow to manage the Soviet farm system. Two years later, at the age of 49, Gorbachev was made a full member of the Politburo, where he became the youngest member of the Communist Party's inner circle. Following the successive deaths of Leonid Brezhnev, Yuri Andropov, and Konstantin Chernenko, Gorbachev was appointed general secretary of the CPSU – and thus the new head of the Soviet Union – on March 11, 1985.

Following Bush's inauguration in 1989, and during their next three years together at the helm of their respective governments, Bush and Gorbachev addressed a wide range of fundamental problems that continued to divide the world along ideological lines – including human rights, arms control, political self-determination, and more. During the course of 1990, for example, the two overcame historic differences to find common ground on such complex issues as German unification and NATO. Throughout 1991, their relationship moved beyond constructive dialogue to active cooperation as the two stood together in opposing the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, withstanding a failed coup attempt against Gorbachev, and convening the Madrid Peace Conference that followed.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev resigned the Soviet presidency on Christmas Day 1991 as part of a peaceful transition to a democratic Russia. Today, he heads the Gorbachev Foundation of Social, Economic, and Political Research in Moscow. He has a daughter, Irina, and two granddaughters. His wife, Raisa, passed away in 1999 after 46 years of marriage.



THE GEORGE BUSH AWARD  
FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

The George Bush Award for Excellence in Public Service recognizes outstanding performance and contributions in public service and is to be presented to an individual and/or group. The award underscores President Bush's long service and commitment to public service. In 1997, President Bush confirmed this commitment when he said "Public Service is a noble calling and we need men and women of character to believe that they can make a difference in their communities, in their states and in their country."

The George Bush Award for Excellence in Public Service is a stunning, hand-cut and polished Steuben creation, featuring a meticulously engraved globe in its design. When viewed from different angles, the globe is beautifully bathed in prismatic color. In the crafting of this award, light, illusion, and movement combine to symbolize community and honor. As one views the circumference of the design, the globe appears to divide and then re-emerge intact, suggestive of unity and strength. Steuben is a tribute to timeless elegance of American craftsmanship and its signature is the hallmark of incomparable quality.

April 12, 2001

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*Mikhail S. Gorbachev*

President, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
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