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President of the Senate, The Hon. Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., has been named “Marylander of the Year” by the Maryland Historical Society in partnership with the Maryland Colonial Society.

Mr. Henry H. Stansbury, President of the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Historical Society, announced today that The Hon. Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate in the Maryland General Assembly, has been named “Marylander of the Year” for 2007.

The award recognizes President Miller’s distinguished career as the longest serving President of a State Senate both in Maryland and in the United States. During his twenty years in that office, he has been widely esteemed for his effective leadership, integrity and dedication to public service. President Miller’s deep appreciation for Maryland history has been expressed in significant legislative support for historical and cultural institutions throughout the state.

The award ceremony will take place on Maryland Day, Monday March 26, at 2:00 p.m. in France Hall at the Maryland Historical Society, 201 West Monument Street. The ceremony, which is free and open to the public, will be part of the Society’s commemoration of the founding of the state.

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The Hon. Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., named "Marylander of the Year"
March 2, 2007, Page Two

Prior to the ceremony, from 1:00-2:00 p.m., the Maryland Historical Society will host a luncheon to honor President Miller. Invited guests will include notables from the Baltimore and Maryland political and cultural communities. The cost of the luncheon is \$20.00 and includes the day's admission to the Maryland Historical Society. Members of the public who wish to attend the lunch can reserve by calling 410-685-3750 ext. 321 by March 19.

The "Marylander of the Year" award was instituted by the Maryland Colonial Society in 1973, as an exciting addition to the Colonial Society's Maryland Day commemorations that began in the early 1940s. Past Marylanders of the Year have included such political figures as U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, the legendary William Donald Schaefer, Mayor (now Governor) Martin O'Malley, Comptroller Louis Goldstein, as well as Cardinals Sheehan and Keeler, and Johns Hopkins neurosurgeon Benjamin Carson. This will be the last occasion that the Maryland Colonial Society will participate in the ceremony, which has been transferred to the custodianship of the Maryland Historical Society.

At the award ceremony, the Colonial Society will also present a prize to the winner of its annual Essay of the Year contest for high school students on a topic of Maryland History, offered in partnership with the Maryland State Archives.

Prior to the presentation ceremony, to commemorate Maryland Day, there will be a wreath laying ceremony at 12:30 p.m. at the Calvert statue that stands outside the Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr. Courthouse on St. Paul Street in downtown Baltimore. The statue commemorates Cecilius Calvert, Second Lord (Baron) Baltimore, who first arrived on the land that became Maryland in March, 1634. The public is invited to attend.

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Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. Bio

The oldest of 10 children, Mike Miller, as he is popularly known, was born on December 3, 1942 in Clinton, Maryland, in Southern Prince George's County. Educated in the Prince George's public school system, he received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Maryland College Park in 1964, and went on to study law at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Graduating in 1967, he was admitted to the Maryland State and Prince George's County Bar Associations that same year and has been in private practice for 30 years with offices in Prince George's and Calvert Counties.

Mike Miller first ran for the Maryland House of Delegates from District 27 in 1970. After serving one term he was successfully elected to the Maryland Senate in 1974 and served as a Senator for the past 25 years. In 1987 his fellow Senators elected him President of the Maryland Senate. He has now been elected to that position for the past 20 consecutive years, making him the longest serving Senate President in Maryland History and for any state legislature in the country, during which time he has received numerous honors and awards.

He and his wife Patti currently live in Chesapeake Beach in Southern Maryland. They are the parents of five children and grandparents of ten. An avid reader, President Miller is especially interested in Maryland and Civil War history.

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