

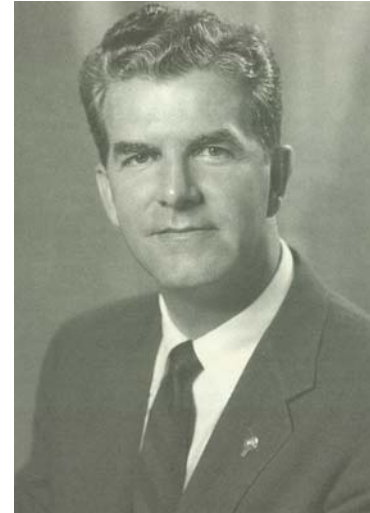
W. C. "Dan" Daniel (1914 - 1988)

Wilbur Clarence "Dan" Daniel was a popular Virginia leader and statesman who was born near Chatham, Virginia, on May 12, 1914. A Democrat, he served in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1968 to 1988 as the 5th District Congressman representing southside Virginia. Daniel served on the House Armed Services Committee.

In 1956 he served as National Commander of the American Legion, and was elected in 1968 as President of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce.

Dan Daniel began his lengthy career in 1939 as an hourly blue-collar worker for Dan River Mills, one of the largest textile plants in the world. By 1968 he had worked his way up to the position of Administrative Assistant to the Chairman of the Board.

Daniel served on Averett College's Board of Trustees from 1967-75 and 1983-88. In 1990 Averett awarded a professorship in his honor. Dan Daniel willed his Congressional papers (including some personal correspondence) to Averett College to be placed in the library as a special collection. After his death on January 23, 1988, these materials were housed on the second floor of Blount Library. They include his office desk and chair, flags that were on his desk, personal photographs and memorabilia -- even his golf bag!



Dr. Jack I. Hayes, Jr., of the Averett College history department, has written Daniel's biography: [Dan Daniel and the Persistence of Conservatism in Virginia](#) (Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1997). Dr. Hayes was named the first W. C. "Dan" Daniel Professor at Averett.

W. C. "Dan" Daniel was honored posthumously by the City of Danville on June 1993 with the opening of a 170-acre recreational facility, the Dan Daniel Memorial Park.