



CHENEY DIES AT 84

DICK CHENEY, A HARD-CHARGING CONSERVATIVE WHO BECAME ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL AND POLARIZING VICE PRESIDENTS IN U.S. HISTORY, DIED ON MONDAY. **B3**



ELECTION RESULTS HARRISBURG

Wanda Williams re-elected for 2nd term as city’s mayor



Mayor Wanda Williams arrives for her election night watch party in Harrisburg. Photos by Sean Simmers, PennLive

In her victory speech, Williams thanks voters, but lashes out at challenger Miller.

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A visibly tired and irritated Mayor Wanda Williams vowed her next four years leading Harrisburg would be better than the first, promising to “uplift” all areas of the city.

But Williams also was looking back in disdain at what she called challenger Dan Miller’s campaign of “lies.”

City voters resoundingly returned Williams to office with 56% of the vote, compared to Miller’s 43%.

“Did you say I was corrupt? Did you say I was incompetent?” Williams said, addressing an absent Miller, who conceded the race early on Election Night.

She also criticized the city treasurer who she defeated by 80 votes in a five-way race for the Democrat nomination in the May primary for making her campaign again in the fall, with Miller running as the Republican nominee.

“First I had a battle with five other men, and then I had a battle with Dan, who lost, and he came back and he talked about everything,” Williams said. “He couldn’t even run on his own merit. He ran on lies.”

Asked by a reporter whether she could work with Miller, who remains as treasurer, going forward, Williams didn’t exactly hold out an olive branch.

“We’ll see because guess what, I’m the big cheese in charge. I’m the executive chief of the city of Harrisburg,” she said.

Oddly, Williams also used her victory speech to address a prolific poster on Facebook who apparently accused the mayor of over-imbibing alcohol.

“For all the texts you did and all the negative comments you made on Facebook ... have a drink on me,” Williams told the



Dan Miller counts votes at his election night watch party at Millworks in Harrisburg.

poster, who she referred to by a first name and last initial — Elizabeth B.

As for her own plans for a refreshment at the uptown bar hosting her victory party, Williams said, “I do not drink.” She planned to enjoy a Pepsi instead.

Williams did have kind words for the voters of Harrisburg — at least those who cast ballots to return her to office.

“Thank you for believing in me. Thank you for trusting me. I know there’s a lot of criticism. I know there’s a lot of name-calling, but I didn’t participate in that,” she said.

When asked by a reporter her message to those who cast votes for Miller, Williams said they should be ashamed for believing Miller’s untruths about her 25 years in Harrisburg government.

Setting out her second term agenda, Wil-

liams identified the following priorities:

- › Infrastructure improvements: Upgrading streets, curbs, and ADA accessibility.
- › Playground renovations: 14 playgrounds will be revamped to ensure children’s safety.
- › Downtown business development: She’s in talks with three potential investors to bring new businesses to the central business district.
- › Clean streets and affordable housing: She touted past successes and promised continued progress in both areas.

But Williams said her first order of business would be to take an overdue vacation, following what she called nine months of grueling campaigning, stretching from the primary to the general election.

STATEWIDE RESULTS

All 3 Pa. Supreme Court justices win retention races

The Democratic justices survived an expensive election.

Kate Huangpu *Spotlight PA*

Pennsylvanians have voted to retain three Democratic state Supreme Court justices, granting them additional terms on the bench after an unusually contentious, multimillion-dollar election.

Republicans and their allies had hoped to defeat the justices and put their seats on the 2027 ballot, opening a path to flip the court. The Democratic majority has handed down critical rulings over the past decade, upholding mail voting and throwing out a congressional map that it found unfairly benefited the GOP.

Justices Christine Donohue, Kevin Dougherty and David Wecht were on the ballot Tuesday. They were first elected in 2015 in a sweep that flipped the court from Republican to Democratic control.

The Associated Press called all three races at 9:53 p.m. Unofficial results show their margins are all around 27 points.

Superior Court Judge Alice Dubow and Commonwealth Court Judge Michael Wojcik also won their retention races on Tuesday. The Associated Press called those races shortly after 10 p.m.

Retention elections are typically low-interest, low-spending races that favor incumbents. Only one statewide judge has lost their retention election since 1968, when the state constitution was last updated.

These elections provide justices with another 10 years on the bench. However, Donohue will hit the state’s mandatory retirement age of 75 in two years. That means there will be an open, partisan election to fill the vacancy in 2027. (Chief Justice Debra Todd, a Democrat, and Justice Sallie Mundy, a Republican, will be up for retention that year.)

The last state Supreme Court retention elections were held in 2017, with Todd and Thomas Saylor, a Republican who has since retired, on the ballot. Spending on those races — from the candidates as well as from special interests via independent expenditures — was relatively low, totaling about \$850,000.

Spending this year has well exceeded that total.

Campaign finance records show nearly \$3.3 million has been spent by Dougherty or on his behalf through in-kind donations of goods or services like mailers through Oct. 20. That total is more than \$2 million for Wecht and \$1.8 million for Donohue.

In addition, a wide range of special interest groups — including Planned Parenthood’s super PAC, Democratic and Republican committees that receive national money, and a trio of groups tied to the state’s richest man, Jeffrey Yass —

SEE STATEWIDE, A3

LOCAL RACES

More results online

PennLive is watching contested races for county-level offices, municipal positions and school board seats in Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry and parts of Lancaster, Lebanon and York counties. Results were still being compiled at deadline for this edition. Find them at **PennLive.com/politics/election-results**.

NATIONAL RESULTS

Economy top issue

In races around the country, Democrats appear to be dominating the first major Election Day since President Donald Trump returned to the White House, with signs economic issues are weighing heavy on voters. **Extra section**