

The President of the Senate of the State of Maryland

First Citizen Award

presented to

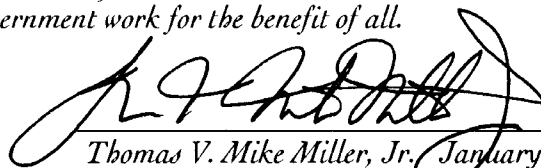
The Honorable Robert F. Sweeney

Chief Judge of the District Court, 1971-

Deputy Attorney General, 1966-71

*In recognition of
his distinguished service to the People and to
the Senate of the State of Maryland*

First Citizen was the name that Charles Carroll of Carrollton chose to sign a series of articles published by Ann Catharine Green in the Annapolis **Maryland Gazette** in 1773. They formed a strong defense of an independent legislature and were among the earliest arguments for a new concept of government based upon traditional community rights and liberties that protected its citizens from arbitrary rule. At the time, Carroll, as a Roman Catholic, could neither vote nor hold public office. With the publication of these articles, Carroll launched a career of public service that would not end until his death at the age of 95 in 1832. In addition to helping draft Maryland's first **Constitution** and signing the **Declaration of Independence** in 1776, Carroll served as President of the Maryland Senate, of which he was a member from 1777 to 1801, and as one of the first United States Senators from Maryland (1789-1792). To be a **First Citizen** is to be a dedicated and effective participant in the process of making government work for the benefit of all.



Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. January 18, 1996
President of the Senate