

DAVIES, GWILYM ELFED Baron Davies of Penrhys (1913-1992), Labour politician

Name: Gwilym Elfed Davies
Date of birth: 1913
Date of death: 1992
Gender: Male
Occupation: Labour politician
Area of activity: Politics, Government and Political Movements
Author: John Graham Jones

He was born at Tylorstown in the Rhondda valley on 9 October 1913, the son of David Davies, a coalminer and Miriam Elizabeth Williams. He received his education at Tylorstown elementary school. He worked as a coalminer at the Tylorstown colliery, 1928-59. He joined the South Wales Miners Federation in 1929, served as its lodge chair, 1934-40, and its treasurer, 1940-54. He was chairman of the Aberdare and Rhondda district of the NUM, 1958-59.

Davies had joined the Labour Party in 1929. He became an executive member of the Rhondda East CLP and the Rhondda Borough Labour Party. He also joined the CWS in 1940. Davies was a member of the St John's Ambulance Brigade, 1926-46, a member of the Glamorgan County Council, 1954-61, and chairman of its Local Government Committee, 1959-61. He represented the Rhondda East constituency in parliament from 1959 until February 1974 when he retired from parliament at the time of the creation of a single unified constituency for the Rhondda. His successor as the Labour MP for the Rhondda was **T. Alec Jones**. Davies was elected secretary of the Miners' Parliamentary Group in 1964, and was chairman of the Welsh Parliamentary Party, 1968-69. He was PPS, November 1964-June 1968, to Rt. Hon. R. J. Gunter, the Minister of Labour and later Minister of Power. In 1974 he became Baron Davies of Penrhys (life peerage). He was a part-time member of the South Wales Electricity Board from 1974-1980, and a member of the Sports Council for Wales from 1978. He was made a Freeman of the Borough of Swansea in 1975. His hobbies were rugby football and cricket. He married on 16 December 1940 Gwyneth, the daughter of Daniel and Agnes Janet Rees, and they had two sons and one daughter. His wife had predeceased him. They lived at Maes-y-Ffrwd, 18 Ferndale Road, Tylorstown in the Rhondda valley. He died at Llwynypia Hospital on 28 April 1992 having suffered from chest problems for several years. His remains were cremated at Glyntaff Crematorium, Pontypridd.

Author

Dr John Graham Jones

Sources

Who was who?

Etholiadau'r Ganrif / Welsh Elections 1885-1997 (Talybont 1999)

Welsh Hustings - 1885-2004 (Ammanford 2005)

Western Mail, 29 April 1992

Further Reading

NLW Archives: Rhondda East Parliamentary Division General Election 1970... Gwilym Elfed Davies The Labour Candidate

Wikipedia Article: [Q5359883](#)

Additional Links

Wikidata: [_Baron_Davies_of_Penrhys](#)

Published date: 2008-07-30

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/>

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).



APA Citation



Jones, J. G., (2008). DAVIES, GWILYM ELFED Baron Davies of Penrhys (1913-1992), Labour politician. *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*. Retrieved 15 Nov 2024, from <https://biography.wales/article/s6-DAVI-ELF-1913>

Copy to Clipboard

- Privacy & Cookies
- Copyright
- The Project
- Help
- Contact

LGC
NLW

LLYFRGEL
THE NATION



Yn ddiweddur
Llywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Government