

John Pope

John Pope was born in Prince William County, Virginia, in February 1773. He was the grandson of Thomas Pope, the father of George Washington's mother. A tall and slender youth, he lost an arm in a mill accident at age fourteen. At seventeen, he entered William and Mary College, where he studied literature and law and graduated with honors.

Moving to Lexington, Kentucky in 1794, he began a brilliant career in law and politics. He soon gained a reputation for his intelligence and wit; although he was politically ambitious, he never allowed this to compromise his convictions.

After establishing himself as a distinguished criminal lawyer, Pope was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1806. During his, he married the sister of Mrs. John Quincy Adams and had two daughters.

In the spring of 1829, President Andrew Jackson appointed Pope as the Governor of the Territory of Arkansas to fulfill the term left vacant upon the death of Territorial Gov. George Izard. This appointment was renewed for four years in March 1831. Pope's term ended in 1835 when Territorial Gov. William Savin Fulton superseded him. He returned to Kentucky and in 1836 was nominated by the Whigs in the Sixth Congressional District. He won and was re-elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1838 and 1840.

John Pope died on July 12, 1845 at the age of 72 after a distinguished career in both law and politics.