



Bio: Vangie Williams

With family roots reaching back over 300 years in Virginia, King George's Lavangelene Aereka Williams (Vangie) is a self-made woman who has overcome insurmountable odds in her life to be where she is today. Vangie currently works full time with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) as a Strategic Planner/Senior Project Control Principal tackling some of the most complex projects for government agencies and private companies. Vangie is also currently in the process of completing her Doctorate in Business Administration.

Vangie's young life and experiences helped fine tune her natural determination and ability to solve problems. Due to the effects of addiction in the family, Vangie found herself homeless several times as a teenager. At age 15, young Vangie was hit by a car and shattered her pelvis. Immediately after being released by the doctor, she applied for her first job and was hired at Chuck E Cheese. Never one to shy away from hard work, young Vangie often held several jobs at once to get ahead, even working as a club bouncer at one point. In spite of the challenges she faced as a teenager, Vangie never gave up, never settled for less and, as a result, rose above and excelled.

For example, at age 20, Vangie was working as a clerk/typist in the Retirement and Separations office at Headquarters Marine Corps. Refusing to be bogged down by doing things the way they had always been done, Vangie took the initiative to reorganize her office's filing system and utilize a new computer system. Her efforts produced in 1 hour what was formerly produced all week. This innovative and proactive accomplishment earned Vangie a four-step promotion by General Al Gray, Commandant at the time, who recruited her to his own office. Vangie went on to work for Navy Admiral Firebaugh after General Gray finished his term as Commandant.

Currently a strategic planner, Vangie is a professional problem solver. When Space Shuttle Columbia went down in 2003, NASA tapped Vangie to get the space flight program back on track. Since 2008, Vangie has been a Program Control Principal/Senior Program (PMO) Strategist with SAIC in Washington, DC. Before that, she worked for Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) in Greenbelt, MD, TEK Systems Inc in Arlington, VA, and various construction companies in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Her career in high-level project management in the areas of aerospace, construction, defense contracting, government operations, IT, and national security spans three decades. In addition, Vangie has been licensed as a realtor in the state of MD since 1997.



"There are no limits life can place on you by virtue of circumstance that determination and hard work can't overcome."

—Robert Louis Stevenson

Vangie's family is of the utmost importance to her. Glenn, a small business owner in King George County and professional bowler, and Vangie have been married for 25 years. They have six daughters spanning in age from 11 to 22. Vangie and Glenn have worked hard over the years to make sure that their daughters have had the love, nurture, support and education necessary to develop into young women of character and distinction. In addition to her career, Vangie wrote several books along the way to supplement the family's income.

Vangie's thirst for knowledge has led her to obtain four degrees and one which will be completed soon, each while she worked full time. Her degrees include: AAS in Construction Management from Montgomery College, Rockville, MD; BBA in Federal Acquisitions and Contract Management from Strayer University, Fredericksburg, VA; MBA in Project Management from Ashford University, Clinton, IA.; DBA in Project Management from Walden University, Minneapolis, MN (anticipated graduation 2018).

Vangie is currently a member of SAIC Women's Network, Project Management Institute (PMI), American Society for Quality (ASQ), Toastmasters International, League of Women Voters (LWV), National Association of Realtors (NAR), US Bowling Congress (USBC), and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

As you can see, throughout her life Vangie has taken on one challenge after another and become an adept problem solver. Her innovative mind sees a problem and sets out to solve it. That's why Vangie is running for Congress. "We're facing the same problems today that we faced 10 years ago when Rob Wittman was elected the first time. I'm running for those who work hard and play by the rules – hardworking people like you and me – who have been forgotten by Rob Wittman and his cronies on Capitol Hill. That's why I have proposed the INVEST Initiative to improve education, public safety and our national defense by helping those who actually do those jobs."

DID YOU KNOW?

- When elected, Vangie Williams will be the first woman of color to **ever** represent Virginia in Congress.
- Vangie shares a common ancestor with President George Washington and General Robert E. Lee as well as President Harry S. Truman and General George Patton.
- Vangie knows the location of almost every Slurpee™ machine in the 1st District of Virginia!