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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JAMES H. QUILLEN  
FIRST DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

November 4, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

Mr. Quillen  
Dear Mr. President:

I am sending you the returns for the First District of Tennessee, and I would like for you to know that Jimmy and I and everyone worked real hard for you. We carried the First District, and I'm so sorry that you did not come out the winner.

It is a great loss to all of us... you have a lovely family, and we respect and love you as our President.

Sincerely,

Mrs. James H. Quillen

WHITE HOUSE  
MAIL ROOM

1976 NOV 9 AM 11 36

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JAMES H. COLLIER  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

November 4, 1976

THE PRESIDENT

Dear Mr. President:

I am sending you the returns for the  
First District of Tennessee, and I would  
like for you to know that Jimmy and I and  
everyone worked real hard for you. We  
covered the First District, and I'm so  
sorry that you did not come out the winner.

It is a great loss to all of us...  
you have a lovely family, and we respect  
and love you as our President.

Sincerely,

Mrs. James H. Collier



**Kingsport**



November 3, 1976

**News**

33rd Year No. 184 Kingsport, Tennessee 37662 Phone 246-8121 16 Pages 15 Cents

## Quillen's Door Stays Open With 58% Victory

Durable veteran of eight congressional campaigns, Republican Rep. James H. Quillen of the First District survived a Democratic sweep yesterday.

But it was by his next-to-lowest margin — 58 per cent — that he turned back the second unsuccessful challenge of Democrat Lloyd Blevins, 96,965 to 70,240, to win his eighth consecutive term.

Quillen was the only Republican on the Nov. 2 ballot to win in Sullivan County.

He carried all 13 counties comprising this Upper East Tennessee district which has gone Democratic only once since the Republican Party was founded.

Quillen fared better in the district than his fellow GOP candidates, President Gerald R. Ford and United States Sen. Bill Brock, who both carried the district, by margins of 54 per cent, but lost the state.

With 21,710 votes in Sullivan County, Quillen did better than Brock, with 21,035, and just short of Ford, with 22,087.

And Quillen's margin over Blevins was six percentage points below the 64 per cent by which he defeated the Democrat in 1974.

In his victory statement, Quillen said:

"I wish to thank all of the people of the First District who have reelected me to an eighth term in the Congress.

"As dean of the Tennessee House delegation in the upcoming Congress, I

shall work with renewed enthusiasm and dedication for the people of my district and all of Tennessee.

"In accepting this victory, I do so with gratitude and humility in behalf of my many loyal and hard-working supporters, who certainly deserve the credit, along with all the people of this great district.

"We must now move ahead with the task of reducing high prices, high taxes and run-a way government bureaucracy.

"I renew and emphasize the pledge I made in my first campaign for Congress in 1962 that my door will always be open to all of the people."

Here is the vote by which Quillen beat Blevins in:

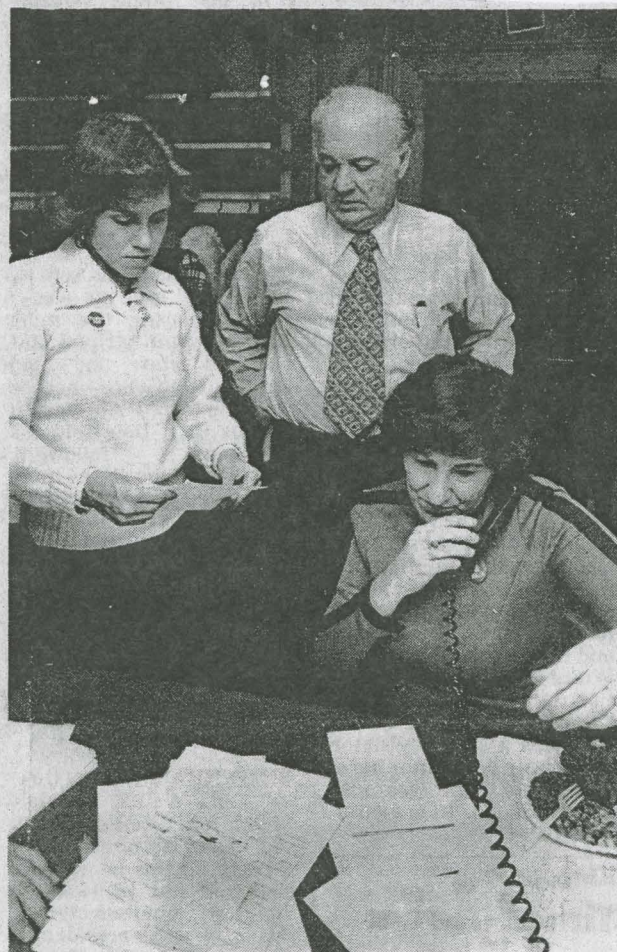
Carter County, 8,126 to 6,849; Cocke, 5,659 to 1,790; Grainger, 2,830 to 1,388; Greene, 9,059 to 6,936; Hamblen, 7,570 to 5,766.

Hancock, 1,324 to 564; Hawkins, 6,826 to 4,707; Jefferson, 6,032 to 2,551; Johnson, with one precinct unreported, 2,701 to 1,386; Sevier, 7,833 to 2,394.

Sullivan, 21,710 to 21,477; Unicoi, 3,071 to 1,942, and Washington, 14,224 to 12,490.

That was the closest squeak Quillen has experienced since 1962, when his margin of victory was 54 per cent.

The two independents on the ballot scored negligible votes district-wide: Robert Joseph Bobic, 624, and Mary S. Joyner, 192.



Times-News Photo — Joan Schaplev

**Shirt-sleeved Quillen watches the votes come in at Republican headquarters.**

