Gerhard Schröder Chancellor of Germany

Gerhard Schröder was born on April 7, 1944, in Mossenberg and graduated in law in 1971 from Georg-August University in Göttingen. He was admitted to the bar in 1976 and was in private practice in Hanover from 1978 to 1990.

Mr. Schröder chaired the Young Socialists in Göttingen from 1969 to 1970. In 1977, he became an executive member of the Social Democratic Party in the district of Hanover. He served as federal chairman of the party's Young Socialists from 1978 to 1980.

In 1980, Mr. Schröder was elected to the German Bundestag. In 1986, he took a seat in the state parliament of Lower Saxony, where he chaired his party's parliamentary group. He served as Minister-President of Lower Saxony from 1990 to 1998.

On Oct. 27, 1998, Mr. Schröder was elected Chancellor of Germany.

Mr. Schröder is married.