



## *Rep. Heath Shuler (NC-11)*

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In 2006, Heath Schuler unseated eight term Congressman Charles Taylor (R), winning 54% of the vote to Taylor's 46%.

Heath Shuler was born on December 31, 1971 in Swain County, North Carolina. He and his younger brother Benjie grew up on Toot Hollow Road in Bryson City, N.C., the sons of a mail carrier father and a mom who raised her children while volunteering her time with the Swain County Youth Association.

As a student-athlete at Swain County High School, Heath set every passing record in school history, including accounting for 106 total touchdowns. He led the Maroon Devils to three North Carolina state championships and was the Most Valuable Player in the 1990 state championship game. After graduating from Swain County High School with honors, Heath played football and attended the University of Tennessee. In his three-year career at UT, Heath set numerous passing records, was selected to multiple All-America teams, and was named Southeastern Conference Player of the Year. He made the All-SEC Academic Team, was named NCAA Male Athlete of the Year, and in 1993, was runner-up for the Heisman Trophy.

The Washington Redskins made Heath the first quarterback selected and the third pick overall. Heath played three years with the Redskins, followed by two seasons with the New Orleans Saints. After retiring from the NFL, Heath returned to the University of Tennessee and completed his education, graduating with a degree in Psychology.

Heath and his brother Benjie started Heath Shuler Real Estate in Knoxville, TN. The company that began with the two Shuler brothers and one agent is now one of the largest independent real estate firms in east Tennessee, with more than 200 employees. With an excellent leadership team now in place at Heath Shuler Real Estate, Heath has become more involved in real estate development.

In 2003, Heath and his wife, Nikol, moved back home to the mountains of Western North Carolina to raise their two children – Navy, 4 and Island, 1 – in the same environment in which they were brought up.