

# Grassroots Focus on Carlos and Maria Esther Puente

March 2008



Carlos and Maria Puente have been involved in conservative Republican Party activities since 1976. The Christian Vote efforts by evangelist James Robison began to impact their political outlook and principles. In the process of raising a family of four children, both Carlos and Maria made an effort to involve their neighbors in Fort Worth's Northside in conservative causes and in the Republican Party.

Carlos served as a trustee of the Fort Worth School Board for six years, two of these as Board Secretary, and he also served a two-year term on the Fort Worth City Council. He ran in the Republican Primary of 1990 for County Commissioner, Precinct 4. In 1996 and in 2000 he was the Republican Party candidate for County Commissioner, Precinct 1. In all of these campaigns Carlos and Maria ran grass roots campaigns which involved community volunteers and youth in political campaign activities.

With the assistance of Steve Hollern, former County Chairman, Carlos and Maria were two of the founding charter members of the Tarrant County Republican National Hispanic Assembly in 1997. Maria has served as an election clerk in the primaries and general elections.

Carlos has been a classroom teacher and school administrator for the Fort Worth and Arlington school districts. His hobbies include making model airplanes or ships with his grandsons. Maria enjoys sewing, crocheting, and teaching their young grandchildren to read. They have twelve grandchildren and one great-grandchild and are members of Southwayside Baptist Church in Fort Worth.