

Chad Bennion

Up Close and Personal

Chad's family has a deep and rich heritage in Utah. His pioneer ancestors traveled to the Salt Lake Valley in the third wagon train entering the valley on October 5th of 1847 and eventually settled in Murray. His childhood was normal enough, going to public schools, hanging out with his friends, and staying out of trouble, except for the time he climbed the old, rickety, Paramount Murray Laundromat Tower in junior high. His Dad happened to drive by and saw his free spirited son atop the old tower. When Chad climbed down, his father was waiting for him. In those days, parents did not discipline their children by putting them in time out. After the incident, Chad gave up tower climbing!

Chad served a mission for his church, being called to the Texas San Antonio Mission. Upon returning he won a scholarship to compete at the collegiate level for the track and field powerhouse, the University of Oregon (go Ducks!). He was one of the best long-distance runners in the country. In 1983, he won the St. George Marathon.

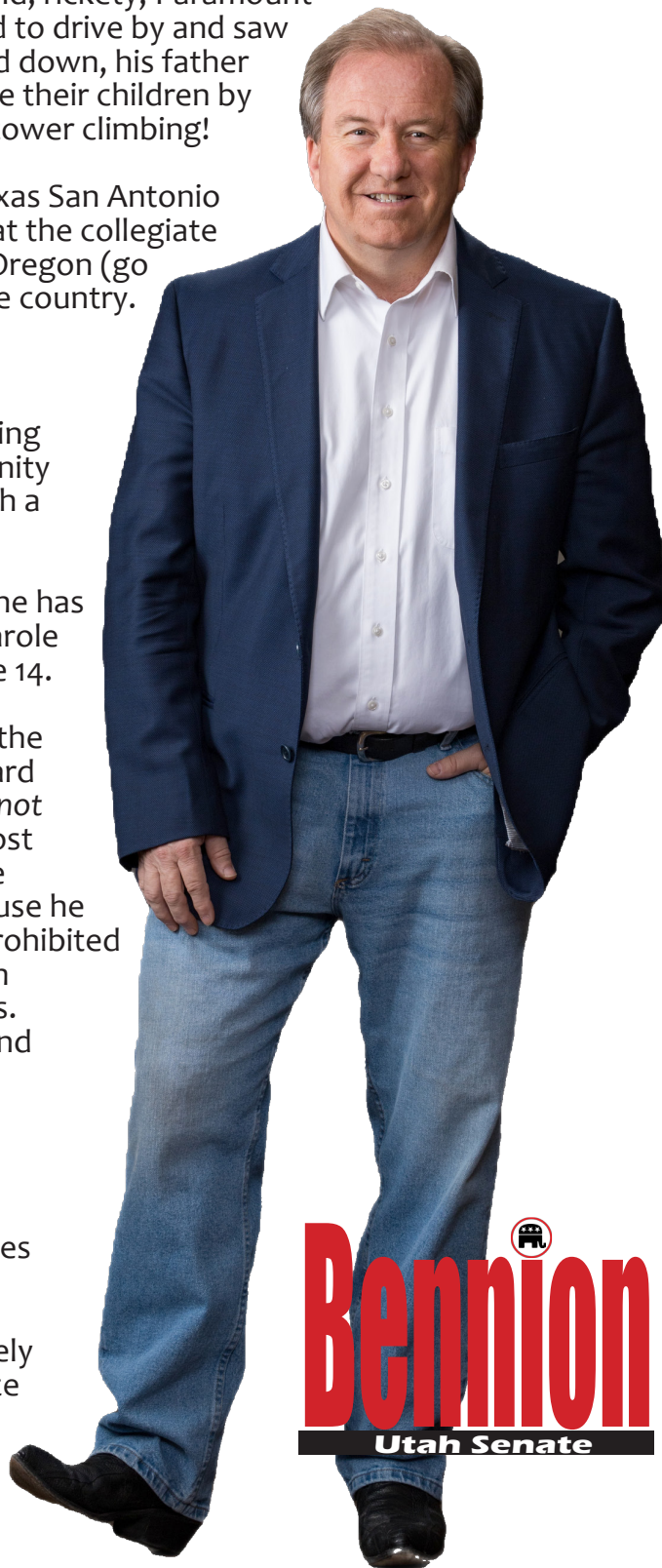
While attending Oregon, he excelled academically. He was awarded the KOYL Cup. This honor is given to the outstanding junior man in the areas of academics, athletics, and community service. Even back then, he loved service. He graduated with a degree in Political Science and American studies in 1990.

After graduating, Chad ran professionally. In recent years, he has represented the interests of correctional officers & adult parole and probation officers as the Executive Director FOP, Lodge 14.

Chad was elected to the Utah House of Representatives at the age of 34. He did so in a swing seat in Murray by working hard with a strong grassroots campaign. He held the seat, *while not compromising his conservative values*, from 1999-2004. He lost his re-election bid in 2004 when the teacher's union and the Democrats poured a ton of money into defeating him because he sponsored the Voluntary Contributions Act. An act which prohibited political subdivisions and the State of Utah (*taxpayers*) from collecting political contributions for associations and unions. The act was fought all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and found to be constitutional, in a stunning defeat for unions!

Having family ties in Utah's Dixie, Chad has resided in St. George since 2014. He moved to St. George to take care of his aged mother after his father passed away and raise his children in a family friendly community with traditional values (go to VoteBennion.com for more information).

Chad is a father. He raised his two youngest daughters largely on his own, winning sole custody after a contentious divorce to protect his minor daughters, he chose not to run for the Legislature again until his children were out of school and on their own.



Bennion
Utah Senate