



BIOGRAPHY

BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL • COLORADO

Colorado's U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell was born in Auburn, California, April 13, 1933. His parents were Mary Vierra, a Portuguese immigrant, and Albert Campbell, a Northern Cheyenne Indian. Campbell is the only American Indian presently serving in either the House of Representatives or the United States Senate. He received a bachelors degree in physical education and fine arts from San Jose State University in 1957 and later attended Meiji University in Tokyo in 1960 as a special research student. Before entering college, Campbell served in the U.S. Air Force in 1951-53, stationed in Korea, attaining the rank of Airman 2nd Class. Campbell is a self-employed jewelry designer, rancher, and was a trainer of champion quarter horses. He was elected to the Colorado State Legislature in 1982 where he served for four years. Campbell is married to the former Linda Price, and is the father of two grown children: Colin and Shanana.

CONGRESSIONAL

Elected to the U.S. Senate November 3, 1992, the first American Indian to serve in the Senate in more than 60 years.

Belongs to four key Senate committees: Appropriations; Energy and Natural Resources; where he serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, and as a member of the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Lands Management. Other committees Campbell serves on are the Indian Affairs and Veterans Affairs committees.

Served 1987-92 in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Colorado's Third District. Served on the House Committees on Agriculture and Interior and Insular Affairs.

A leader in public lands and natural resources policy, recognized for the passage of landmark legislation to settle Indian water rights, and in the forefront of sponsoring and fighting for legislation to protect Colorado wilderness and water rights.

In 1991, won fight to change name of the Custer Battlefield Monument in Montana to the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument - legislation that honors American Indians who died in battle.

Initiated and passed legislation to establish the National Museum of the American Indian within the Smithsonian Institution.

A leader in developing preventive treatment programs to battle Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

Inducted into Council of 44 Chiefs, Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Lame Deer, Montana.

All-American in Judo; three-time U.S. Judo champion; captained the U.S. Olympic Judo Team at Tokyo Games in 1964; Gold-medal winner in Pan-American Games of 1963; coached the U.S. International Team.

Selected by Newsweek magazine as one of 20 "people to watch" for policy and future of the American West.

Voted one of Ten Best Legislators in 1986 by colleagues for the Denver Post and News Center 4 survey.

Recipient of more than 200 first-place and best-of-show awards for jewelry designs.

- elected to the Senate on November 3, 1992 for the 6-year term beginning January 3, 1993
- committees: Energy and Natural Resources
- Veterans' Affairs
- Indian Affairs
- Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
- chairman, subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation.

Organizations, Honors and Awards:

- voted by colleagues one of "Ten Best Legislators" in the Denver Post-News Center 4 survey, 1984
- "1984 Outstanding Legislator" award from Colorado Bankers Association
- inducted into the Council of 44 Chiefs, Northern Cheyenne Indian Tribe
- member of Durango Chamber of Commerce, American Quarter Horse Association, American Paint Horse Association, American Brangus Association, American Indian Education Association, Colorado Pilots Association, Aircraft Owners and Pilot Association, senior technical advisor, U.S. Judo Association

Family:

- married to Linda Price, July 23, 1966
- two children: Colin and Shanah

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Source: 104th Congressional Directory





US Senate



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Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell

State: Colorado

Party: Republican

Hometown: Ignacio, CO

Place of Birth: Auburn, CA

Date of Birth: April 13, 1933

Education:

- attended New England Mills Grammar School, Weimar, CA
- attended Placer High School, Auburn, CA, 1951
- quit high school to join Air Force (where he got his GED)
- attended graduation exercises and received a diploma in 1991.
- B.A., San Jose State, 1957
- attended Meiji University in Toyko, Japan, as special research student, 1960-64

Military Service:

- served in U.S. Air Force in Korea, airman second class, 1951-53

Professional Experience:

- jewelry designer who has won more than 200 first-place and best-of-show awards
- rancher who raised, trained, and showed horses
- All-American in judo, was captain of the U.S. Olympic Judo Team in 1964 and won the gold medal in the Pan-American Games of 1963

Political Experience:

- elected to Colorado State Legislature in 1982, serving 1983-86 on the Agriculture and Natural Affairs and Business and Labor Committees
- appointed advisor to the Colorado Commission on International Trade and Colorado Commission on the Arts and Humanities
- elected to the 100th Congress, November 4, 1986
- reelected to the 101st and 102d Congresses
- appointed to Committees on Agriculture, Interior and Insular Affairs, and Small