



RICHARD ~~XXXX~~ Cheney
Secretary of Defense

Dick Cheney was nominated by President Bush to be Secretary of Defense on March 13, 1989, was confirmed by the United States Senate on March 17, 1989, and took the oath of office on March 21, 1989.

Mr. Cheney was born January 30, 1941, in Lincoln, Nebraska, and moved to Casper, Wyoming, at a young age with his parents, Richard H. and Marjorie Cheney.

He attended elementary schools in Casper, graduated in 1959 from Natrona County High School, and earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in political science from the University of Wyoming in 1965 and 1966. He was a Ph.D. candidate in political science at the University of Wisconsin in 1968.



Mr. Cheney began his public service in 1965, when he served as an intern in the Wyoming State Legislature in Cheyenne. In 1966 he was selected by the National Center for Education in Politics to intern on the staff of Warren Knowles, then Governor of Wisconsin. In 1968, the American Political Science Association selected him for its Joseph E. Davies Congressional Fellowship, which he served as an assistant to the late Congressman William A. Steiger, R-Wisconsin.

In May 1969, following the fellowship, Mr. Cheney began several years of federal service under Presidents Nixon and Ford. From May 1969 to December 1970, he was Special Assistant to the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity. From December 1970 to September 1971, he served as Deputy to Donald Rumsfeld, the White House Presidential Counsellor. And from September 1971 to March 1973, he was Assistant Director for Operations of the Cost of Living Council.

In March 1973, Mr. Cheney left government service to become Vice President of Bradley, Woods and Company, Inc., an investment advisory firm.

In August 1974, when Gerald R. Ford assumed the presidency, Mr. Cheney served on the Ford transition team and, beginning in September, as a Deputy Assistant to the President. In November 1975, he was named Assistant to the President and White House Chief of Staff, a position he held through the remainder of the Ford Administration, until January 1977. In 1976, Mr. Cheney was named by the U.S. Jaycees as one of the ten outstanding young men in America.

He returned to his home state of Wyoming in May 1977 to resume private life. Mr. Cheney was elected to Congress in November 1978. He was re-elected in 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, and 1988.

For the 1981-82 Congress, he was chosen by his Republican colleagues to serve as Chairman of the House Republican Policy Committee, becoming one of the few members ever elected to a leadership position after only one term in office. He was re-elected to the Policy Committee Chairmanship for the 98th, 99th, and 100th Congresses.

In June 1987, he was unanimously elected Chairman of the House Republican Conference, which functions as the party's caucus and provides the information to its members on pending legislation. The Conference Chairman is the third-ranking House GOP leader.

In December, 1988, he was unanimously elected House Republican Whip for the 101st Congress, the second-ranking Republican leadership position. The whip is responsible for polling Republican members on pending legislation, keeping them informed of the agenda on the House floor, and acting as Republican leader whenever the House Republican leader is absent.

Mr. Cheney was a member of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, where he served on two subcommittees -- National Parks and Public Land, and Water and Power Resources. He was also a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, serving as ranking Republican on its Subcommittee on Program and Budget Authorization. He was ranking Republican on the 15-member House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Deals with Iran.

Mr. Cheney married Lynne Vincent of Casper on August 29, 1964. They have two daughters--Elizabeth and Mary.



The Honorable Lynne V. Cheney

A native of Wyoming, Mrs. Lynne V. Cheney graduated from Natrona County High School in Casper, Wyoming. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with highest honors from Colorado College and her Master of Arts degree from the University of Colorado. She received a doctoral degree, with a specialty in 19th-century British literature, from the University of Wisconsin in 1970. She holds several honorary degrees as well.



Mrs. Cheney taught at several colleges and universities and was a magazine editor and a widely published author. She has written two novels and co-authored, with her husband, the Honorable Richard B. Cheney, Secretary of Defense, a history of the House of Representatives.

Currently, Mrs. Cheney serves as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), a position to which she was nominated by President Reagan, unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and was sworn in on May 23, 1986. As Chairman, she directs an independent federal agency with a multi-million dollar budget that provides grants to scholars, colleges, museums, libraries and other cultural institutions to support research, education and public programs in the humanities.

As NEH Chairman, Mrs. Cheney has spoken and written about the value of the liberal arts to one's professional and personal life. She has been particularly concerned with the way knowledge of the humanities is being transmitted to the next generation, and after directing the Endowment's comprehensive assessment of humanities education in America's elementary and secondary schools, she wrote *American Memory: A Report on the Humanities in the Nation's Public Schools*, released in August 1987.

The fifth Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Mrs. Cheney also serves as a member of the Commission of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

Mrs. Cheney and Secretary Cheney were married on August 29, 1964. They have two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary.