

Ben was elected to the Council in 2007 to serve a four-year term. Ben previously served on the City Council for two terms from 1996-2003 and is presently the Quality Manager at Nortech Systems in Garner. Prior to that he was Quality Manager at IMI Cornellius in Mason City, Quality Specialist at IMT in Garner and Quality Inspector at Winnebago. Ben received his Certified Quality Engineer Designation in 1998 from the American Society for Quality.

He and his wife, Kathy have two children – Alex, 16, is a Junior at Clear Lake High School and Katy, 13, who is an 8th grader at Clear Lake Middle School. Kathy has taught 5th grade at Clear Creek Elementary School for 17 years. Ben & Kathy will celebrate their 20th anniversary in May 2008.

Ben was raised on a strawberry & vegetable farm on the east end of Clear Lake. He graduated from Clear Lake High School in 1983 and from Iowa State University in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business. During his spring semester in 1985 Ben worked for Senator Grassley as an intern on his Congressional Staff in Washington, D.C.

Prior to his election as City Councilman, he served fourteen years on the 280.12 School Board Advisory Committee, three years as President of the Clear Lake Jaycees, four years on the Main Street Design Committee. Ben also served on the Farm Bureau Legislative Committee and is presently a member of the Presbyterian Church.

In his spare time he enjoys biking, grilling out, dabbling in art, watching movies, travel and talking politics.