



Lloyd Millard Bentsen

Party: Democratic • **Chamber:** Senate

State: TX

Service: 1947–1993

Most recent Congress: 103

Biography

(Uncle of Ken Bentsen), a Representative and a Senator from Texas. Born in Mission, Tex. , February 11, 1921. Attended the public schools. Graduated, University of Texas Law School at Austin 1942 and was admitted to the bar the same year. Served in the United States Army Air Forces 1942-1945, attaining rank of major. Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Entered the private practice of law in McAllen, Tex. , in 1945. County judge of Hidalgo County 1946-1948. Elected in 1948 as a Democrat in to the Eighty-first Congress and, at a special election on December 4, 1948, to fill the vacancy in the Eightieth Congress caused by the death of Milton H. West. Reelected to the Eighty-second and Eighty-third Congresses and served from December 4, 1948, to January 3, 1955. Was not a candidate for renomination in 1954. Founded and operated a financial holding company in Texas. Elected as a Democrat in 1970 to the United States Senate for the term commencing January 3, 1971. Reelected in 1976, 1982, and 1988, and served from January 3, 1971, until his resignation on January 20, 1993. Unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States in 1976. Chairman, Joint Economic Committee (Ninety-eighth Congress), Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (Ninety-eighth Congress), Committee on Finance (One Hundredth through One Hundred Second Congresses). Democratic candidate for Vice President of the United States 1988. Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of President William Jefferson Clinton, 1993-1994. Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on August 11, 1999. Was a resident of Houston, Texas, at the time of his death on May 23, 2006. Interment in Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery in Houston, Texas.

Legislative Activity (1947–1993)

Bills sponsored: 0

Bills cosponsored: 0