

## Verne Duncan Interview on Governor Vic Atiyeh

An interview of Verne Duncan on the topic of Oregon Governor Vic Atiyeh, recorded on August 12, 2014. Duncan served during Atiyeh's administration as Oregon's Superintendent of Public Instruction from 1975-1989. The interviewer, James Moore, was a professor of political science at Pacific University and was Atiyeh's biographer.

Note on the text: This transcript was made through AI in 2025, with some manual corrections. It has been provided in order to facilitate research, but the text does contain errors and inaccuracies. Users should check the transcript against the recording before quoting the speakers.

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Verne Duncan 0:00

Something like that. Yeah, I was just thinking, when you're talking over there,

Unknown Speaker 0:04

probably my stuff is going to be a lot of the stuff you hear from

Speaker 1 0:09

everybody else you know sitting in the meetings with him, right, things like that. But it's also

James Moore 0:16

I need you for context at the time

that's going to be really important, so,

you know, so it's, it's that kind of stuff as well. Yeah, I have some specific questions I need to ask you about school funding. Sure, how that all worked, and when it changed? Because I graduated from high school in 77 and I moved back here in 1990 so I was, I was exactly when Vic was in office, is when I didn't live here. So

Speaker 1 0:47

77 on, all the timber business just create chaos, and we have school closures all over. Yeah, um,

James Moore 0:54

in 75 Medford came within one vote of shutting down for the school year, and I would have just gone to soc. We knew. We knew James case hours, the president, yes, and my parents had talked to him, and I would have just started at

soc. This is basically a sophomore, but

Speaker 1 1:11

you ready to do something? Yeah? Well, Eva. Point closed, yeah. Exactly later. Point closed, North Bend closed, yeah.

James Moore 1:21

So all that stuff,

Speaker 1 1:26

many meetings, was fit in that conference room over this which we were telling people, the state can't do anything, yeah? I mean, yeah, it's local. It's local. There you go. Not that we didn't, but the way it worked out, yeah, yeah.

James Moore 1:39

So just start out telling me how you knew Vic. You know, what did he first get on your radar? And then, how did, how did you know him?

Speaker 1 1:54

Well, okay, my first association with him was,

Unknown Speaker 2:02

I was super tenant here in Clackamas County,

Speaker 1 2:06

and I think it was about that time he had Senate Bill one, which is one of his education plans. It never happened, I don't think, but was he gave me something one time.

Unknown Speaker 2:20

Gosh, what I have, I bet

Unknown Speaker 2:23

his notes from

James Moore 2:25

when he was in the Senate, or something. Yeah,

Speaker 1 2:28

something about Senate Bill one? Wow. It was Senate Bill one when he was in the Senate. Yeah, it was a biggie with him, but it didn't, didn't materialize. But you know. So why I'm here? Not that I'm working directly with him. You know, he's very aware of him. He was in the Senate. He was very happy, very respected in the Senate, and a person that you wanted, you want on your side if you're after something education wise.

James Moore 2:56

So what are we talking about for time here? Well, that would have

Speaker 1 2:59

been 1971 1917 so 1970 would have been my first, yeah, yeah, been my first real Association, very indirectly at that point, yeah, very

James Moore 3:10

Yeah, yeah. And fascinating talking to him, because I asked him about especially when he's in the legislature. So you know, what about this person or that person, you know, he was, if it wasn't in this legislative purview, he kind of knew what was going on, but he really, he didn't focus on what the Secretary of State was doing, or he didn't focus on that kind of stuff, because it was, it wasn't his job. He was really focused on what is the job at hand was,

Speaker 1 3:39

yeah, well, so actually, as that's because I was here 70 to 74 and I was elected for 74 went to Salem 75 and he was in the Senate, then

Unknown Speaker 3:55

didn't have a.

Unknown Speaker 3:58

Isn't that funny? I don't know how

Speaker 1 4:02

I didn't have a lot to do with my career, but somewhere I really gained a respect for him, because

Unknown Speaker 4:12

I'm trying to think

Speaker 1 4:18

it's really funny I was, I was in climate falls with Joe, the old editor, longtime publisher, at that same

Unknown Speaker 4:28

time falls,

Speaker 1 4:31

and he was rent and Raven, when I went in his office, he was so mad at Tia because they endorsed Tia and so forth, and the Word has been spread when he was trying to get some advertising. No, we're doing TV and not newspapers. And while

Unknown Speaker 4:49

I was in Bible falls, I called,

Speaker 1 4:52

I don't know if I called him or who I called. He said, You better get some advertising down here, right? Quickly. And big thank you. Got a big ad in their paper because, oh, Joe was mad. I went his office. He just damn it to you. You know, we backed him all day. We done this thing, and look what he's gonna do. No, no, he's gonna put TV at his paper. So he was really mad, yeah, and so I remember, so I so I must have been, I must have been pretty loyal to, of course, of course, I'd be campaigning at the same time, right? Exactly, because the superintendent and the governor used to always campaign the same year. So, yeah, yeah. So I was obviously campaigned at the same time. He was probably got pretty well equated during that time so forth.

James Moore 5:44

Was your was it a partisan position at

Speaker 1 5:48

that? No, no, no, no. So I was always careful to be but I obviously I was I like to Tia, and when I heard that in Joe's office, I thought I'd go work too, right? Yeah. So I was trying to, you know, I think most of the years I was pretty although you're when you're public and they still try to, yeah, you know, Earl Blumenauer, some of them are always after me, because they assume I might run for Yeah, other office or something sometimes. So they tried to stand to make me all those superintendents

James Moore 6:20

of Public Instruction who became governor, yeah,

Speaker 1 6:26

yeah, and so,

Speaker 1 6:31

so that would be my first uh huh, my, you know, when probably, probably got to know him on the campaign trail, when we're both because on the campaign to you out with Everybody, right? I mean, you know, not Democrats, Republicans, those, those political happens much anymore, not but he used to have this can affairs and be there all over the stage Exactly. We don't show up exactly. So that's when my first so I can't say I knew him well, or had much to do with him.

Unknown Speaker 7:02

I don't know if he was on the

Speaker 1 7:05

I don't use him on the Education Committee. I can't. Yeah, he would that on and off. He wasn't good when he accident Bill one I went by, yeah, that plan. I don't remember him at that particular Cliff row. Yeah, was Gerry. And so I worked with Cliff more. So yeah. So it was when he became governor, and I must have worked fairly close with him, because they had a big they had a big gathering for him. Now the downtown, not downtown, but on the east side someplace. We had something kind of a tribute to him. And the

Unknown Speaker 7:43  
Secretary of Labor

Speaker 1 7:45  
at that time. Mary Wendy, no, no, no state in the US, oh,

James Moore 7:49  
us, us

Unknown Speaker 7:51  
came and spoke. Donovan No,

James Moore 7:55  
no. Elaine Chao, no,

Unknown Speaker 7:59  
kind of her. I've got pictures.

Speaker 1 8:06  
Glenda. Put it together now, Glenda, have you heard about Glenda? Glenda was his secretary in those days, and she was that first term. All of a sudden, Glenda was gone. I never saw her. I never heard about her again. She's just gone. But Glenn had been his secretary in the Senate. You might want to, well,

James Moore 8:29  
I doubt you're saying that. I remember that he because he fondly talks about the legislature, they didn't have offices for most of the time he was in. You know, their their desk on the floor was basically your secretary was there, yeah, so the name has come up,

Speaker 1 8:44  
but yeah, but she was just Governor secretary, yeah, probably most of his first term, yeah. And I don't know what happened. Something happened, because it was really Yeah, just disappears. She just disappeared, yeah. So be curious. She'd be an interesting person to talk to, because she was with him during the legislature and probably most of his first term, and Glenda put this whole thing together. I remember kind of a, I never knew really what the purpose was. It just kind of a tribute to Tia, right? Yeah, he was very This was his first term, yeah, and we're still not campaign time, right? And I was invited to speak, and there's several program the other night. Camera The Secretary of Labor came out. He was the Republican national chairman from Kentucky

Unknown Speaker 9:45  
and a senator from

James Moore 9:49  
so this is 7980 ish, 81 ish.

Speaker 1 9:52  
Well, he's elected 78 so it's right in there. Yeah, okay, yeah,

Unknown Speaker 9:57  
yeah. It's before the a two election, well before. Election,

James Moore 10:00  
yeah, because having the Republican chair would make more sense than the Carter labor

Speaker 2 10:04

secretary, yeah, oh, yeah. Might

James Moore 10:08

have been after the election. So it might have been the Reagan labor secretary at

Speaker 1 10:12

this point. He may have been the Republican national chair. Yeah, James on the tip.

Speaker 1 10:22

And, now, so that's when I so I started attending his meetings. Right off the bat, I attended McCall had something each week too, and the State Superintendent takes office a week before the Yeah. And so I attended McCall's last staff meeting. I was invited, I guess, as elected officials, still invited. Very nostalgic time McCall didn't want to go. Yeah, it was his last meeting, and then started meeting with, well, Straub after that, that's right, so, yeah, that was, that was a different role. I just dropped the staff. Talking about staff a while ago. Staff just drove me crazy. Yeah? Strap would tell you one thing, we assume the staff would change. Yeah, didn't happen to deal, yeah,

James Moore 11:13

well, there was a struggle with that in I didn't talk to him about it because I hadn't gotten that far in the oral history. But in fact, he had a meeting with Lynn Newbery and someone else. There. They were, Lee Johnson, here's what the budget is. Oh, yeah, yeah. And he listened. He listened. He said, Okay, now we're gonna do the governor's budget. Oh, that's what they did. They did not do. Oh, it's jobs budget. No, it was, it was Lynn new breeze budget. Oh, my Johnson's budget.

Speaker 1 11:44

Oh yes, because they did, because I know we all met with, yeah, yeah, during the transition, yeah.

James Moore 11:50

And he said, Okay, that's glad to hear that. Now we're gonna do, now we're gonna do governor, the governor's budget, not, not your budget. Convinced

Speaker 1 11:56

that Newbery would not have been there, the good Chief of Staff way. And I like Lynn Newberg, yeah, but a chief of staff has to be able to be in a subservient role, yeah. And when you've been kind of Yeah, kind of tough to Yeah.

Unknown Speaker 12:18

So I can see where Ed Jerry was just Yeah.

James Moore 12:22

One thing that it occurred to me reading all this stuff and talking to Denny and a little bit to Vic about the Chief of Staff kind of thing,

Vic dealt with Howard Baker,

who'd been, you know, fancy, fancy government, you know, presidential candidate, US senator, and then become the Chief of Staff, yeah, and so it'd be just fascinating to look at that dynamic and see

Speaker 1 12:44

how that would be, yeah, how that was. He wasn't present himself, yeah, yeah, exactly, yeah, exactly, when I said that a minute ago, I thought I mainly thought of Howard Baker, yeah. I thought of that, yeah, yeah, yeah. Interesting. So,

James Moore 12:55

um, tell me about the weekly meetings. So,

Speaker 1 12:59

yeah, they were several days, and different groups went on,

James Moore 13:03

oh yeah, because he beat the legislative leadership, you know, kind of the Yeah,

Speaker 1 13:09

I split it up a little bit, and I can't remember exactly.

Unknown Speaker 13:14

I know I was with transportation and forestry,

Speaker 1 13:18

at least a dozen people plus around, yeah, and he said smoking a cigarette, Yep, exactly. Old days short sleeve shirt, Yep, yeah,

Unknown Speaker 13:31

sweating right around the room, yep. And

Speaker 1 13:35

that was it. Yeah. He didn't pontificate or anything like that. It was just a matter. It is a chance for people to tell you what's going on, right? So his point was, I never wanted to call off guard. Yep, exactly, yeah, exactly. So those were,

Unknown Speaker 13:52

and as I said, he brought people together. You know,

Speaker 1 13:56

Lee Hanks from I remember him saying, well, Vernon, you legal. You could work that one out. Yeah.

James Moore 14:02

The one that Vic is kind of most proud of is he had veterans and the housing people. Well, there was something that occurred to them, oh, wait, the federal government's changing the way that home loans work or something, and you guys can solve a huge problem. And they did, because these meetings. Well,

Speaker 1 14:20

together, I tell you what. Let me tell you a good example, right there. Leo and I really worked together. He was Leo hickstrom, yeah, objective human health and human services. Anyhow. What do you call it? Das DHS, well, what was it was called something else, yeah, anyhow, Leo, and

Unknown Speaker 14:49

it was a lot of conflict

Speaker 1 14:52

on education and with my staff and with his staff, family and. Uh, adult family and all these things. It's just a little complex. Anyhow, Leo and I put together a meeting. At that first meeting, education people lined up over here, and all the DHS people over here. And pretty soon, when you go to a meeting, they're all mixed up. We really got things going. We really had things moving on, early childhood education and a bunch of stuff. Really had some good things going. And I remember at one of the meetings, I think editorial come out really, very complimentary about this relationship, love relationship. Do you and little have together now. So because we really did, yeah, Neil came in. Everything went. It just destroyed everything. It was. Neil sent someone over to see me, and overdone the dropout rates, and he wants it. Oh, by the way, do governor wanted to know he'll be announcing the dropout rates next year. So what? Basically, well, the governor wants to anybody who's making a minimum wage would not be counted as a dropout as we're working on our plan. And I said, Well, fine, you go ahead and release your report. I'll release mine. It was just one. He was trying to show he was doing a lot with dropouts, right? Was doing a dang thing. And besides, we were saying, you don't start with a dropout problem. You have to front load the system down here. So Leo and I had, we had the early childhood and

all this sort of stuff really going. And it all got put beside and that was the teas, you know, his staff was, was great to work with, and

James Moore 16:50

then it fell apart. Yeah, so when Gulf came in, was it simply a lack of the meetings, or

Speaker 1 16:57

was no contact with no contact? No, I didn't deal with the governor talk. Yeah, smoke in my retirement, had forgotten about that. Yeah, I was over here at risk on the high school. He did come to speak of that, and I remember he said something about,

Unknown Speaker 17:16

how do you say it?

Speaker 1 17:19

He probably says, and I'm probably the last governor burns talk to kind of a slam shot, yeah, yes, I'm probably the last ghost come think I'm probably the last governor. I forgotten about that. He did speak at my retirement.

Unknown Speaker 17:36

He came, by the way, I'm going

Speaker 1 17:40

to show you that picture of him at the 80s. You would never know this is a man who's going to die in three months. Yeah.

James Moore 17:52

Really, last time I interviewed him was June 3. June 3. And my wife and I Donna and I just went and spent a month in Italy for our 25th anniversary? Well, it died while you're gone, yeah, well, he died right when I got back, and he was excited, because he and Dolores were celebrating their 70th and so we came back, we're here to compare notes on anniversaries and

and, you know, boom, he fell. When is your anniversary?

Our anniversary is actually next week. Oh, but we went, we did big trip,

Speaker 1 18:25

and Don and I just did our 50th. Oh, great, congratulations. And we just took off, the two of us, and went up on Hood Canal area and then place up there, and did day trips. And we just had a good time. Yeah, she didn't want a big Yeah. Big thing here Donna's Yeah, yep, that my 80s birthday party was in 80 Yeah, and I felt kind of guilty, but that's Donna, she Yeah,

James Moore 18:54

yeah. Vic fell on his anniversary.

Yeah. That's right, it was, and that's right. So when I met with Denny Miles saying, so my wife is kind of, you know, why did he fall in his anniversary? Yeah? And he said, well, because then he didn't find out about that he'd even fallen until the 13th, because Dolores had gone in the hospital. There's a deal, oh yeah, there's a deal that, if anybody goes in the hospital, then he does a press release. So they didn't call him until Dolores went in the hospital, and Vic was telling him what was going on, and said, Oh, by the way, I fell as well. Were you in the hospital? No, just to check out. But eventually he and Denny talked, and Denny asked him, so were you doing some funny dancing on your birthday or on your anniversary, Vic had fallen and broken his ribs, so he started cracking up, and it hurt like hell. Then Vic said something that Denny responded. He laughed harder.

So it's like, well, there you go.

There you go. So we don't know. He fell. But Vic thought it was very funny to ask

Unknown Speaker 20:07

Yeah. He was,

Unknown Speaker 20:09

yeah. What a way to go, yeah, yeah.

James Moore 20:11

And yeah, he's 91

Unknown Speaker 20:16

that gives me 11 years if I go that Sure,

James Moore 20:18

sure. And you know, doing just fine until the last two weeks. So

let's do switch to a little background stuff here.

When you started as superintendent school districts for school districts, that's basically where the money came from. They didn't vote for school. About 30% state, yeah, 30% state. That changes. So eventually we get to the safety net 19. Well, well, yeah, safety net is Goldschmidt,

Speaker 1 20:54

no, or is it before the safety nets coming in with that's coming in, probably within the goal that was a Jason bow

James Moore 21:06

Jason bow thing, because the way Vic described it is, by the time he left office, about half the school districts had kind of, you know, had the failure and then voted in the safety net kind of thing. And so I wasn't sure how that timing worked, because everybody's got it now,

Speaker 1 21:30

well, you see it, yeah, it's so different now, and I don't even understand it now, okay,

Unknown Speaker 21:38

at that point when he came in,

Speaker 1 21:42

okay, you had tax bases, right? A district had a tax base, by the way, because of consolidation, reorganization. So you might have a district like North Clackamas became a district, and so I think they had a zero tax base, right? A lot of districts because of, yeah, you know, some of these tax bases were established back in the 20s or so. Yeah,

James Moore 22:03

done Southern Oregon. We famously had them from 19 1216 Yeah.

Speaker 1 22:08

Bethel School District was 1925 I think. And it was, you know, they might have had enough that they could have run school for two days. Yeah, you know, a lot of those tax bases were just nothing, yeah, well, they the law at that time was you could increase your tax base. You couldn't increase your tax base. You could increase your levy by 6% on your tax base, not the tax base. And everybody kept saying, Well, see, they go up 6% every year. Well, I try to tell people around the state, if your tax base is zero and you increase it by 6% you still have a problem. Yes, zero times six, zero, yes. And you know, you'd say that to people, and then they'd say, Yeah, I know, but they get decrease at 6% every year, and they just go up and up and up. No, it doesn't happen that way. And then they keep saying, well, they keep coming back to us.

They keep well, they have to, if you don't go back, you you operate only on what you have that tax, plus, you know your state money that you but state money was, was nothing about 30% and just some federal money in some cases. And so, so you would have to go back. But historically, people pass levies, right? You know you who would vote against the school, right? And then Salem had a big group coming in and started a real anti campaign. And so you saw that happening a few places. But still, the concept was pretty much you always, we're proud we passed our levies. But then you had the timber tax, the timber sales, drop off OC funds. So you take a district like Brookings Harper that didn't need state money and didn't need anything because they had on sea funds. A lot of these, Douglas County, Jackson County, southern particular, there Curry, all those people. They really lived on own seafood. They ran the county government. They ran your schools. You know the gravy. I remember going down to Brookings harbor one time they passed, failed their levee, several times their schools would have had to close if the levy didn't pass them to it was not a threat. It was an actual fact that you would have had to close. And so I remember, I said to people down there, I remember meeting with the whole big room. I said, folks even on the gravy train for a long time, and now it's catching up. Yeah, and you know, you've got, and even when they passed that Levy, I recall they still had one of the lowest tax bases, yeah, which is the problem. That, yeah, everything, yeah. So that was the system we had so that

James Moore 25:04

my grandmother was the principal at calmess Elementary. Okay,

so you Okay, yeah.

Speaker 1 25:14

Well, so we were going through that. So we were meeting, you know, I think I had about 14 school districts that were ready to close. We came over. We met in the governor's conference room. You know, of course, what the governor is having to say, and I'm saying the same thing, there is no state money. I mean, there is nothing right now. There is no way. And there's an equity part of the question, if the state did, if the state were to come in, which they can't, but give you the money. I live in District x over here, I'm gonna say, hey, let's vote our Navy down next. The state will come in and pick us up too, you know, so you but that was our system at that particular time, and that's when Jason was trying to work out his plan?

Speaker 1 26:06

Yeah, safety net. I can't remember the safety net was coming in.

Unknown Speaker 26:11

It was during his

Unknown Speaker 26:13

during his time I've

Unknown Speaker 26:20

been a Jason leave?

Speaker 1 26:23

Because Jason was still in President, yeah, he was five terms, and he was elected, I think 70 370-577-7981,

Speaker 1 26:39

so it was prior to that, then that, because I know that Jason was the one working on some and he had a, a b, a b plan, or something to or several, but that, I don't

Speaker 1 27:00

think I've answered your question, probably because I don't know the answer,

James Moore 27:04

no, but we're getting closer, yeah, yeah. I'm having it, yeah. I'm having to dig Yeah, yeah.

Unknown Speaker 27:10  
I remember all that part,

Speaker 1 27:13  
and that's when it would have been during his time, when

Unknown Speaker 27:19  
we definitely would have had Eagle Point, North Bend,

Unknown Speaker 27:24  
South lane, which is COVID Grove,

Unknown Speaker 27:30  
Estacada, that

Unknown Speaker 27:33  
the closed doors. Seems like we have

Unknown Speaker 27:39  
those four for sure,

Unknown Speaker 27:41  
and there were others like Legrand was so close to

Speaker 1 27:45  
the grand what happened over there was interesting, because the business community did not want Legrand to get the image of a place to close the schools, and they worked a deal, signing notes and so forth, covered, wow, payroll or something to keep it going until the next election. Private equity and interferes. Yeah, wow. There was something on that, because the image shows, oh, yeah, what you do to your town? Yeah, close your schools and what there was a, there was a real fear that the people would say, we're running out of money. We have to close our schools. Yeah. Well, I didn't. I was concerned about that too, because, you know, not that I have Indians, group of superintendents or boards or anything, but, yeah, I wouldn't trust them. So I was doing an MBA at the University of Portland, and I had Mike White from managerial accounting, and my project then was to develop a system where I could determine, yes, District A you do have to close, you will run out of money on October 16, and I can vouch for it, and I'll sign off on it, unless you can, unless I can do this, I'm not going to sign up. And you know, the State Superintendent won't come in say, Yes, this district will have to close, because you know you do. If you close, you still have to pay insurance. You still have debt obligations. You have security. You know that you want to take care of the heat the buildings during the winter. You don't want the pipes to freeze. You know those are so you calculate all those Givens that you have to do. There was always the question, when you have contracts with teachers, well, they became null and void, we said, but so we worked that out so that so I could, without any hesitation, I can say, I will stand behind that district on their decision. If it doesn't meet this, I won't do it. Yeah, so we did that during this time, during the he knew what we were doing, yeah. We worked together a lot on those things in those days. Keep in mind, very different i. I watch what's happening today. You know, governors are just taking over. Oh, yeah, schools all over. Yeah, that didn't happen. Big City Mayors, yeah, mayors just, they really have to, and that would never happen. In fact, it was rare that the legislature never got involved with curriculum. Yeah. In fact, I I tried to balk if they did. I didn't want him, because the last thing he won, which we're finding is true, is the political aspect of the curriculum. So we didn't have that during my tenure, I never I gave way one time on a peace curriculum. And why I did that Wayne Faubus was the senator who wanted and so

Unknown Speaker 30:46  
otherwise, I fought everything else,

Speaker 1 30:49  
and then I had to develop this peace curriculum. So I put together a five person committee. I found kind of a peace Nick, and then a friend of mine, who was a Navy Reserve captain, who was young, and I thought I was gonna have war and

my Peace Committee, and they came out with the most innocuous curriculum you could ever imagine. And I submitted that to school districts and casually said, stick it on the shelf, and I'll never look for it when we try to evaluate yourself. Because I Well, it just doesn't work with the legislative process. I don't think. And Dick never, he didn't try to play superintendent.

Speaker 1 31:33

I laughed. There was a measure on the ballot that would have made the governor superintendent at that time, which is which we have right now, which I think is absolutely unconstitutional. Oh, wait, yeah, but anyhow, no, that wasn't it. No, there was just one, but he was going to attend, appointed by the governor. Yeah, appointed by that. So wouldn't mean the governor at that time. Frank tried to do the other but he didn't get it through. Frank Roberts, and so I was in the in his office the next morning or something. He says, Vern, I voted against. I voted for that bill, he says, But Dolores did smiled and we laughed. And I said, Hey, if I'd been governor, I would have voted for it too, yeah, yeah. So we laughed about that.

James Moore 32:23

When you're talking about Legrand and the business community stepping up. One of the things about Vic is when he came into office, he didn't have sweeping changes in mind. He ran for governor the first time because he looked at McCall at the end of his time and said, end of his time and said, I can do that just kind of how he ran for the first time in 1958 for the legislature, because

Speaker 1 32:48

I don't have to be showy or anything. Yeah, actually, yeah, if you think about you hear the glowing comments. Now, didn't hear that? Oh no. He was criticized. Yeah, he barely made it. Well, he did make it in good shape. I think, I think I thought he'd probably lose the election. Gulen, most people did early on, yeah, the tide changed right the end, yeah. I would have guessed that he was going down to, yeah, yeah, to defeat, yeah, absolutely. It's not a public but I did. I can remember saying to him, and people love to say that, you know, I said, but I did say this number of times him, his people treat you well, and right, yeah, yeah, absolutely, but he was not getting the accolades, no that he deserved that he's getting nowadays. Yeah,

James Moore 33:43

yeah. And partly not tooting its own horn. Denny apparently got in trouble because people said, How come you're not tuning the governor's horn? And said the governor doesn't want to do any the governor will let me, yeah, yeah, let me do it. I think that's what. Okay, these water. No, I'm fine. Thanks.

All that Starbucks coffee.

Unknown Speaker 34:15

My voice was going out there for a

Unknown Speaker 34:21

minute, yeah, but would not have been his style,

James Moore 34:23

yeah. But question is, he ended up having a long term plan of making Oregon a better place to do business. In the words today we'd say, you want job creators to come in, oh, yeah, and, and partly to replace timber stuff, but partly because he just saw as a business person and been legislated for so long. We need a diversified economy. You gotta have it. But,

Speaker 1 34:52

you know, it's interesting in that whole process, you know, there's a tendency to think that you. A business, some business people, like, if I had done, you operate like a business and so forth. I think he was a businessman, right, who understood government Exactly. And government can't always operate like a business, but where he could, he, yeah, you know, I mean, he was not a I mean, he was interested in education, he was interested in human services. You know, he wasn't just a, I'm a important downtown businessman, and that's the only one I care about. Now, that didn't, that didn't come through, yeah? Well, there might have been those, yes, right? There might have been those who felt that at

that time. I suppose,

James Moore 35:46

from his point of view, the business community thought he was one of theirs. And then he, well, they said no to him. He said no to them, yeah. And they were ticked off. Oh, yeah. But then he it never it, it's, it can be fascinating to look at the media coverage. I don't think it ever went so people said, Oh, he's not really part of the, you know, he's not a yes man for the business community. I don't think that ever really happened with people's perception, from

Speaker 1 36:12

the People's perception, from the People's perception. But, you know, those sides always, I remember, I'm sorry to talk about my own, but that's really I remember having to having been in office for a short period of time, but I met with the School Boards Association and Jan Colton. Do you know Jan? Jan was my assistant. Jan was with me, and they just raked me over the coals. You know that I had sold out to the teachers union because they had endorsed me the first time. They didn't the next time, but they did that sold out to the teachers union and so forth and so on. And really raked me over the Colts. Now I hadn't even been in office or a year, but and then I met with the OVA leadership. You know, with those recent period of time Jen's with me again, they just wrecked me. You know, they supported me. And yet, you've never forgotten your administrator. And you care about administration. You could care less about teachers you never obtained. You've forgotten you were ever a teacher. And they just, I remember we walked out, and he was Jan, and said, I can't believe I was in both meetings, you know, I mean, you get it. And I think I was thinking I must have been doing a hell of a good job. Yeah, yeah. But that's like, it's Yeah, yeah, yeah. Your business colleagues would expect you to a teacher, people expect you to be just all for exactly yeah, exactly

James Moore 37:47

did, in your mind, did a TIA ever specifically associate getting school budgets more Rational as part of that economic development thing, because he, he, he specifically talks about land use planning, making, not getting rid of the land use stuff that we had, but making it so that businesses knew what to expect, and farmers knew what to expect. Everybody knew what to expect. And then from there, permitting, are you focused on? And then as things kind of fall around him in the recession, because basically, he just had one year that wasn't kind of a horrible recession going on, then he he focuses on cutting budgets, but he's putting money into what he says, higher education and business development, the Economic Development Group, yeah, but besides that, you know, everything else has got to be cut. But what's was the school budget, school stuff at a local level, was that ever part of the conversation about, you know, making this a more attractive place for business, which it is now. I mean, clearly it is now.

Speaker 1 39:04

I don't associate, I don't associate at Tia with education a lot, and that's not a negative statement. It just at that time, I'm not sure what we could have done, to be truthful, yeah, yeah. I mean, I we were doing all we could. Yeah, we were doing it. I mean, I was keeping in touch with him and so forth. I think he let me around the department I did, and I'd go to meetings with other state superintendents. So my Governor got me doing this, my governor, my governor doesn't they might get a call. I then get a call right from the governor. They're at the meeting. They have to run home. That would never, oh no, never, no, never have happened? Yeah, no, I didn't have to. Up and so forth. I respected him, right? Even though, technically he was not my boss, yeah, I just always had a great respect for it. Yeah, yeah. I think that I would have tried to have the same thing for deal, but we didn't have a relationship, right? Straub. Straub was really nice and very pleasant, and I had no negative density, but Straub and I had to talk about something, and then staff would do something else, right? And I suppose in those days I didn't care that much, because governors were not that involved. Yeah, was education. Yeah,

Unknown Speaker 40:44

it wasn't a biggie at that time.

Speaker 1 40:47

So I know that's I don't associate him with your

Unknown Speaker 40:52

interest and support. But

James Moore 40:55

so what can you tell me about investing in higher education, especially after the 82 recession hit, because he says in his he makes a point of that was one thing that didn't get cut and he put more money into it. From my point of view, which was 1000s of miles away and when I was in high school, the reason I didn't even apply to a state school is because I looked at the legislature mucking around with money going to higher ed all the time. So why else would I want to go there? Yeah,

Speaker 1 41:29

if you could talk to Llewellyn, I guess he would. He would have. He was having a rough time with the legislature at that time. He was a Graham. Did you know him at all? Yeah, just what a grand man. I just loved, I loved Lou, and was just really great to work with. And he, he, he wrote it well with the legislature. I can't believe it. He can still be joeville. And yeah, but they were really, yeah. They were really after him all the time. Well, they're after me too. They were, yeah, the legislature, yeah. The legislature was, by the way, I deserved some of the time, but they were,

Unknown Speaker 42:18

I didn't find the legislature very pleasant.

James Moore 42:21

That's why. So was it, do you know, I mean, how much money was going to higher ed? Was it a huge amount of money, or was it just kind of keeping them even

have a sense of that at all?

Speaker 1 42:35

I'm not sure we were keeping even around the country. I don't think so. That's, that's just a that's my feeling as well. That's my feeling, and it's kind of my memory of it, but I don't have figures to back it up, okay, but I think they were, I think we're falling behind, okay, even in those days. Okay,

James Moore 42:58

one specific thing that came up,

I wrote

vix Oregon encyclopedia entry.

Speaker 1 43:06

Oh, did you I did? Oh, good. And I read that.

James Moore 43:10

It just, just went online right when I got, like, a week before he died, it went online. So I have the one that says 1923 to x, and then now it's 1923 to 2014

but it's putting together.

You know, big he a big thing that he's really proud of is the unitary tax change in the special session in 84 one of the anonymous reviewers, and who knew that the Oregon encyclopedia would be a fully vetted thing for peer review, but one of the anonymous reviewers said, Well, if you do the unitary tax it it took, it made a big hit to public education. And so I, when I was saying to the editor, I said, Well, I can't put that in there, because I don't know about it. Wait for the book. Although I'll do research. Here's, here's what I know about the unitary tax without going into the actual numbers. But from the stuff that Vic did, and from talking to to a couple of other people and looking at like the blue book and things like that, the unitary tax would have resulted in about 36 million fewer dollars coming in. But one reason he called it for a special session is he wanted the legislature to consider it without the budgetary stuff, because the unitary tax, on its own was an issue with getting businesses to come in. And then he said, I'm going to, when I write the budget,

the \$36 million will be taken care of, I'll take care of the day, which, as far as I can tell, is exactly what happened. So do you remember any conversation like the unitary tax would do a big hit to public education

Speaker 1 44:53

at this point, Joe, you're talking about 30% of the Yeah. Yeah. It's. Still under the old system, yeah. And by the way, when I say 30% that state would average, Portland was getting about 17% Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, 17 to 19% at that time, yeah. So it's a stag white figures it's it doesn't tell you the true story. So they were not so Portland probably the impact would be, yeah, would have been minimum, minimum, completely. So he's not funny. I can't you know good, a good source there would be Aussie, okay, do you know Aussie rose? No, but Aussie would be a good source on that one. Uh huh. He really would be the best source would be Lloyd Thomas, who just died. Lloyd was my finance guy who really could have just Yeah, would have answered just like that, yeah, because I know I'm not a good finance man, and I had Lloyd, so I really was good shape. I don't have him now I die,

Unknown Speaker 45:55

but I think Aussie might okay.

Speaker 1 45:59

Okay, who he is, yeah, yeah, yeah, as he was really be a good source on this whole thing too, for Yeah, because he'll understand the finance right, better, much better than I will, right?

James Moore 46:10

Yeah. Another reason it becomes important is one of the bits that AP put out talked about that, about the unitary tax. It talked about the unitary tax happen and schools took a hit and and so I don't know who the anonymous reviewer was.

Speaker 1 46:27

Why did I ask you to ask the question? Can we ask you just right now? Sure, just ask us right now.

Unknown Speaker 46:40

Let's See if I can get him i

Unknown Speaker 47:04

questions you can ask.

Unknown Speaker 47:08

See beginning. I

Speaker 1 47:14

just expect people to be right there exactly.

Unknown Speaker 47:21

Let's see if I try to Hey,

Speaker 1 47:37

Ozzy, this is Vern, how you doing? Good. Good. Ozzy, I'm sitting here with Jim Moore, you know, professor from the Pacific, and he is the designated person by Vick Tia to write the biography of Vicka Tia. Oh, wow, yeah, yeah. So Jim, Jim Ozzie rose, hi. O'

James Moore 48:01

that happens, they'll believe half of what you read.

Speaker 1 48:03

Hey, he just asked a question, and I said, Hey, I've never claimed to be a good school finance, man. You're the you're the best source I know. Jim asked, Are you in a good position to answer a question right now?

Speaker 1 48:20

Okay, we'll give you just a second here. Okay, here's Jim

James Moore 48:28

so the unitary tax repealed or Reformed in the 1984 special session, there are some who say that the unitary tax reform cost schools money because of the tax money now not coming into the state coffers. As far as I can tell, that the cost to the state coffers was about \$36 million and the governor said that he then massaged that so it wasn't a problem when he put the budget together in 1985 Do you know if the unitary cat tats cost public education money when it was passed? And

Speaker 1 49:12

by the way, I was I reminded Jim that during that period of time, your state support, you know, statewide average, maybe 30% so what would that impact be? So answer the question, I don't

Speaker 3 49:26

know for sure the answer your question, but I was gonna throw in what came to the state anyway, right? And so he

Speaker 3 49:42

said he massaged it. Yeah,

James Moore 49:54

thanks. The reason it came up is I wrote the Oregon encyclopedia entry on Vic. He. And one of the anonymous reviewers, one of the anonymous reviewers, said that's what happened. And then I told the editor, I can't put that in because I don't have facts on that, so I'm just trying to chase it down 86

Speaker 3 50:22

election and the governor was co Honorary Chair of our number four ballot measures are related to taxes and school funding on the ballot, and three of them we were against in part of a coalition which he was honorary chair. The fourth one was supported by OE, and I gotta go back and do some checking.

Unknown Speaker 50:50

And the fourth one

Speaker 3 50:53

also failed, and we were, I think, ambivalent on it, but anyway, oh yeah, put out their newsletter after election. Note, an OEA won three out of four. The governor took that newsletter. He has addressed the governor comes on newsletter. Type mail and

Unknown Speaker 51:20

he rode across there,

Unknown Speaker 51:24

not bad, but COVID was four or four.

Unknown Speaker 51:30

They've had it all these years.

Speaker 3 51:33

And talked to Jerry Thompson about it last week, and she said that you guys up there would want to have

James Moore 51:42

it. Yeah, our archives would love to have that, but

Speaker 3 51:45

I've got to go back and research. I've already got some of the stuff I've got to research so I can tell the story right around about those four measures working on that. And then I was just going to call up and come up there. I had on my wall all my professional days and at home, but I really liked the governor. He was really, really good guy. If

Speaker 4 52:09  
you guys could use,

James Moore 52:16  
oh, we would love to have that absolutely.

Unknown Speaker 52:21  
And the governor always greeted me. It's good

Unknown Speaker 52:25  
for the kids, right?

Speaker 3 52:29  
Anyway, I get the research done behind that so I know I'm telling the story, right? You know, stories that people my age tell are kind of in the realm of accuracy, but you

Unknown Speaker 52:43  
need to do some work for sure

James Moore 52:44  
you're accurate. Yeah, yeah, yeah. I just finished reading all 63 hours of the governor's oral history transcript that he did with The Oregon Historical Society about 22 years ago. And so I'm into the accuracy part, you know, talking to other people, looking at actual documents to make sure he was kind of telling what actually happened would

Unknown Speaker 53:04  
be if he said he did it, he did it.

Speaker 1 53:09  
I think that's a pretty, pretty reasonable thing. That's a good statement. Well, well, you'll look forward to reading Jim's book. When's it coming out? Jim probably 2016 2016 Okay, well, we'll look forward, okay,

James Moore 53:30  
exactly. The governor just formally, he just asked me last October.

Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, you can contact me at the university.

It's I'm easy to find at the university. Just google me and either the university comes up or any one of a billion newspaper articles. So I think I'll google

Unknown Speaker 53:55  
Pacific and invite you

Speaker 1 53:57  
on that. I think you're better off. Yeah, yeah. Okay. I'll see Hey. Thanks for pulling over. Good to talk to you. Okay, bye. Well, I think he might be a good resource to keep in mind. Yeah, that's great. Do you want his number? Well, sure I've got his home. He has 503-362-1473, 21473,

Unknown Speaker 54:24  
and his mobile is 50393146164616,

Speaker 1 54:32

zeros, and he was the director of the Confederation of school administrators for well 30 years. I

James Moore 54:44

Yeah, it's people like that who don't necessarily appear in the oral history. Oh, yeah, it's getting those details. And so I'm you know, kind of you know, hey. Mean, the views that I know, and you got to dig deeper and deeper. Oh, yeah, because I, when I, when I go, like, into the State Archives, I can't just go in there. There's too much stuff. Oh, you get overwhelmed. I get I have to have a good plan as I hit it, yeah, oops, that kind of stuff, yeah. Well,

Unknown Speaker 55:20

the Russian East life was

James Moore 55:21

yes, such as hit the Rodney, has anybody written a good book on the Russian Well, you

Speaker 1 55:28

know, not a good book. There's a, would you believe those boxes right there? It's all Russian East. And Kathy Murdoch, who was my legal we've been sitting here putting that all in order. Oh, great. And so I'm not, I don't shoe writers. I somebody said I shouldn't. I said, No, no, I was too close to it. Yeah, I don't, yeah, it has to be somebody on scholarly, yeah, do it? You know? Yeah, I've got a lot of stuff on that's the education side. Yeah, exactly. There's a big article that was in

Unknown Speaker 56:06

Harper's or something like that, oh, huge,

Speaker 1 56:10

30 pages or something, I have that he has one paragraph in there about education, and it says, Duncan finally comes on the scene in years later. And my gosh, all you have to do is look at my documentation and we're on the scene. You know? I'm doing all this sort of stuff with them, back and forth and so forth. I'm mad about that. Yeah, that I don't there was a, there was a TV on public broadcast, yeah, and they don't mention education, no, no, they don't. Yeah. We were very much involved with them, yeah, yeah.

James Moore 56:50

So tell me about just, you know, several thumbnails of you as a super state superintendent dealing with them. Okay? And then after that, let's segue if you have anything about what you knew the governor's office was doing or not doing that kind of stuff. So focus on you your first hand experience.

Speaker 1 57:12

Well, my first, I don't think remember these first I can go back to all the dates when we first started having official kinds of concerts. You know, there's obviously concern, they're taking over the school board, right? It was an illegal election and so forth. So that was all fine.

Unknown Speaker 57:34

The question,

Speaker 1 57:37

keep in mind, I think their state support was about \$50,000 a year. Now, remember the log one is buying a new rose Royce every week, right? So what's \$50,000 right? All the raja nice would have had to set was on any given day. We're a private school, yeah, and I'm not blocked. They didn't do that. My theory is they wanted the state when things were going smooth and they would do something, I'd have to come down on them, and I think it, it helped make them look like the oppressed. You know, my theory that there's just, why did they why even bother with this? Yeah, they could build their notice of me, yeah, yeah. They couldn't. When they're a state under the state authority, right? You know, I can say something about the curriculum and all that sort of stuff, but they didn't need me, yeah? But they couldn't. So

Unknown Speaker 58:42  
it was interesting. I

Speaker 1 58:44

sent staff over. There was a lot of complaint. I am, you know, if you read my mail, just mail from the people all over the state, just furious with the Russian news. First of all, the teachers are wearing religious garb to school. You know the Catholic Well, you go back to the five law and, you know? And it was interesting because I finally did rule that they could not wear the medulla with the bug once picture on, teachers could not wear that. Some people would say to me, yeah, but they're weighing it down their neck. I said, they may be. I'm not going to go look down their neck and I look at the red, you know? Yeah. I said, I have teachers all over this state going to school today, wearing red out red, so, but we did. My staff went over, and they came back with a report to me, and I said, gave the appearance of being inaccessible to the general public, and I was critical of that. And. Took it. So I said, take away the basic school support and \$50,000 they got a home to me and said, Well, you had never even been over. You're afraid to come over. I said, No, I'll come over. So I went over. It was really interesting, because as I went down on the ranch with Badu and the mayor Eva, huge side, big sign that said public access to Lincoln school. I started laughing at both of them, and I said, Oh, you guys. I said, Yeah, I have a military background, and I know how you prepare the night before for the general's visit the next day. I said, I'll bet I get wet paint all over my fingers. Touch that side and they chuckle too, anyhow, but it's public access, but anyhow, eventually we did with reports from my staff. I did rule to get out there. No, I was going to what was I going to ask you? I was going to do something. Yes, my staff met.

Unknown Speaker 1:00:59  
We decided, I

Speaker 1 1:01:02

think it, what the exact decision was. Something was coming down the Raj been very popular public. The public would have loved it. I said, I have to go to the barber shop. And so I'm sitting in the barber chair talking to skip my barber you know how you do? And I'm mulling this whole thing over. And I'm saying, you know, we just made a decision. We made a political decision, the public alike, but it's not the right decision. I'm wrong. Went back on the staff feelings. It's not reversing. So they kid. In fact, even on the tapes they've done, they've done this tape on me that's going to come out, in fact, this public deal, and it says, Vern, wintry barber and skip didn't like the plan, so he changed his mind. And they said every time we had to make a decision after that, we'd say, Vern, do you want to run checks? But anyhow, I did reverse it, but then one time I ruled against them, and they took me to court. No, I said the seven things they had to do and to become I was no further situation. And so it took they took me to court because I didn't I'm standing no money, and of course, things like that go into Marion County Court. So the night before they called, they had a revised plan, one, meet with them before court. Sure. So wrote the courthouse. I met with him, and they came with something way off the wall. No, no. Well, the judge said, You guys keep working on something. So we did, and they kept it was interesting, Jim, because ABC, NBC, not locals, I'm talking about the networks, were there, and my I knew it was going to be interesting that day because my kids were in high school. No, Annette was in college at Oregon State. Chris was in high school, and her boyfriend, who's her husband, who's the superintendent Oregon City now, stayed out of school that day, it went down because, yeah, it's going to be interesting. Yeah. Anyhow, about noon that day, they kept coming back in proposals I was rejecting. You know, they were just awful. Finally, they came back in with exactly the seven things I said they had to do. Yeah, that's what I said. If you do that, I'll do so. We stepped out, all the cameras, stepped in front. They're great choreographers. The state superintendent has now met, you know, it just they were, they were great choreographers. Yeah, I was out to a Sheila quite a bit, not quite, but I was out. She was the office, and I was having lunch with one day. She was wearing once more salad, and she chuckled, and I'd laugh, you know, one little glass of water, all these things that they're talking about poison, which they really had done. But

Unknown Speaker 1:03:53

I was that one day I was out there, they

Speaker 1 1:03:58

was time for the bog ones pass in review, and so I'm in line with them, and someone hands me a tambourine. You're doing that? No, don't I didn't just see a picture on the argonia Exactly.

Unknown Speaker 1:04:13

I was out there the day

Unknown Speaker 1:04:16

that Sheila had left.

Speaker 1 1:04:18

She had just left. I just happened. Donna was with me, and we went down. I saw Donna take it down the ranch. And how I got down, I had my own car, not not a state car, and just drove down. And as we were, as I drove into antelope, by the way, I could see the school wasn't in session, and I'm getting kind of upset. What's going on? Why is it schooling session? So we drive down the ranch, I couldn't quite remember how to get to that public access, the Lincoln School, which was on the ranch. I remember stopping at the Peace station, and that was a peace station police officer, and it says, how about a school? The. He's, I'm sorry, I don't know. I really upset. I said, you know, you're the police department. What happens if something goes wrong at your school? You don't know where it is? Well, obviously they're calling somebody. And while do the school board, Chairman is right there, and Don and I, he took us on a tour that day everything. Wanted Donna to see the ancient everything, really, everything's really strange, because remember, Sheila is just Yeah, morning, that morning, there's a lot of chaos, and yet they're trying to keep a cold Exactly. And fact, they even had a new school bus they wanted me to see, and took me to show me the school bus and show me the other place. And Don and I walked around had ice cream at the store down there. And by the way, we didn't leave till about five o'clock, and when we went back up to antelope, school was in session. I said I knew it would be rounded up kids right quick. Like school going for me? Yeah, it was an interesting time. Yeah, yeah. Interesting time,

James Moore 1:05:56

yeah. So

what? What do you know about what the governor was doing, or was that on your radar? The

Speaker 1 1:06:04

governor and, well, for example, the governor and and Dave front, we were all getting letters. You know, Governor was a G, was I was and the Rajesh won copies of what made. So we met and the decision was made, we would block out names and addresses of who had sent the letters to us, and we would make copies for them, charge them before, which we did, there was a feeling that probably, if they forced the issue, we probably would have to provide names. So yeah, we thought we'd start this way? Yeah, exactly. So we did that never materialized. I think it all fell apart before, but, you know, little things like that with a strategy of how to handle it. So we were keeping in touch with Dave and the governor's office too. So I think I just was reporting what our end of it was. And so they always knew what we were right.

James Moore 1:07:02

We were doing right. So the sense that they were that was kind of the central,

Speaker 1 1:07:07

yeah, repository. I don't know that we, I can't say there was a central, there was no major clearinghouse for us. I don't think, I don't remember having to do I think we, I think just by nature, we were, we did that with it, yeah, but yeah, I don't remember any central that we always had reported, although it was like I said, the State Police seemed to know, seem to know where we were, and all that, I thought was interesting. One night, I'd made a decision, which was very much against the Raja. Nice. And again, the network news was at my office and and it was covered, and everybody left, and I stayed at my office, and I decided to stay and watch the 11th lot news. Let's see what came on and Tika, who she could be short term. She was really called me a child abuser on TV that night, and then I left to drive home, but I had a funny feeling as I left the building, nobody around, I mean, and I got my car, and I remember that night, every we're living here, I was driving back and forth to Salem I just had a funny feeling. And it was I took no route that I ordinary took. I just completely changed coming home and had I known what I know now all the way worked out okay, but had I known what I know now, I would have said, I think I need state police, yeah, escort home tonight. Yeah, I should, I should have done that. But as it worked out, okay, yeah, just, you know, it was a scary time, but I was very aware that they were very upset with me. But again, Jim, why? Yeah, why not just say we're probably done with it? Yeah, we're

just a private school out here. Always the school district. Yeah, close the school district.

James Moore 1:09:19

One thing that Vic was saying was, he had a real sense that these kinds of cults have a life cycle. You can't predict when they are going to end, but they are going to end. Was that something that that you focused on, or were you just kind of caught up in the day

Speaker 1 1:09:38

to day with it? I think we're probably caught up in the day to day. I don't think at that point, you know, I don't think, I don't think I knew enough about their inside politics to to know that the Wagwan and Sheila had kind of spit and said, I can't say that. I. Yeah, hey, you know, this is a call, and I am convinced that we're being used as a tool to help help them set a message out that we're being oppressed. Yeah, big government coming down on us. Those old newspapers. Did you ever do you ever seen one of those Russian East newspapers?

Unknown Speaker 1:10:24

I have it right. You

James Moore 1:10:34

can tell you haven't been out there for a bit. You

Speaker 1 1:10:46

it, yeah, yeah, they're megas there. That might be a good source.

James Moore 1:11:13

This is interesting.

I yeah, that's, that's family My mother grew up with in

Unknown Speaker 1:11:44

Hawaii. Oh, really, yeah. I

James Moore 1:12:19

hope a little bit. Mr. Dungeon, yes, great, yeah. Everyone. Was

Speaker 1 1:12:33

beloved in those days they're taking the students they're all taking. I

Unknown Speaker 1:12:48

This is the picture I love. This is Ron Burge, my

Speaker 1 1:12:54

Japanese under the rainbow. He said it was really funny. Sunday morning picked up his Sunday morning paper and Sandy Hook and sailor, he wasn't the front page of the fact that's what I do. Yeah,

Speaker 1 1:13:38

I'm sure I would imagine in the history someplace, yeah, there's got to be an archivist newspaper, yeah, this is the New Yorker. Oh, great. Oh,

James Moore 1:13:52

that's the big one. Good. Pick it up. Just give me a date on that, because I have all the New Yorker I can get home, he'll be on the

bottom of

the page, November, September 26 September 22

Unknown Speaker 1:14:22  
i whole and I'm sure a TIA is,

Speaker 1 1:14:35  
but disregard the comment where it says, Duncan finally comes on. Conceive. I will, I will

James Moore 1:14:51  
get all those,

yeah, they'll be, I. Be a lot of things on The  
team. It interesting times? Yeah, absolutely.

Speaker 1 1:15:54  
And if you'd want to be the one to write the education part of it, I'd be happy to let you do it. I

James Moore 1:16:04  
So let's leave the governorship. You superintend it for another couple of years, then you leave.

Tell me what

Vic was like. Is kind of

the grand old Vex governor that was,

Speaker 1 1:16:23  
that was fun to watch. Yeah, the relationship between he and Barbara Roberts was really interesting to watch. They did a lot together, yeah, and I think they end up with a lot of respect. She really, she thinks the

James Moore 1:16:37  
world of it. Oh yeah. And he, we talking to him, he said, You know, I think we disagree on one policy thing now, yeah, they really in the 1992 93 when he's in the oral history, she's in office. And, you know, by the time I got to know him, yeah, that's buds. Oh yeah, yeah. He really, he really, Ted is the one he really, really bonded with on a real personal gusky. Oh, cool.

But, um, he just thinks the world of Barbara, yeah,

Speaker 1 1:17:08  
yeah, yeah, they really do. And she'll, she'll just go, Yeah, she'll just, she just loves the man. There's no, there's no question about it, yeah. And so she gets kicked out the two of them, yeah, doing Joining Forces, a lot of things. Yeah, they've been supporters, co chairs, of different things. Yeah, so that's, it's been fun to watch. He's,

Unknown Speaker 1:17:33  
it's interesting, you know,

Speaker 1 1:17:39  
he comes in my coffee group. He's a decent, nice human being. He's not. He was the governor, but he was, by the way, he was very proud to be the governor. Oh, yeah. I mean, he was very proud to be governor. Teal, there's no question about that. His license plate, yeah, his staff gave him that. He didn't go after that they presented to him, but he did not change it, yeah, no, no, no, no. He likes x1 he liked that one. Yeah. And, you know, there's a group meets quarterly, like Oswego. You heard about that and that we had his birthday party for him, and I had pictures downstairs. I just happened to have a camera that day after his birthday party, yeah. And these are the old timers from the 70s back right? Yeah.

You have to have served an office in the 70s before you can be admitted to this. And he's always there. Well, this has been, I have a picture that I love, I'll show you of him leaving, walking to his car. And I just watched him, and he's walking, he's walking like this, just walking, and there's the governor boy. It's just, you know,

Unknown Speaker 1:19:02  
I think, I think he enjoyed, I

Speaker 1 1:19:07  
think he enjoyed the attention he's getting now. And,

Unknown Speaker 1:19:13  
you know, I'm sure he's seen these

Speaker 1 1:19:19  
the same people were cussing me at one point. And I, by the way, I have this evening, I get, I get people coming to me and say, Eva, the best superintendent, my gosh. And I'm saying, you know, I think you were one of my critics. You know, as I told Donna, I get better every year. 10 years, I'm going to denigration Exactly, exactly, Oh, gosh. But I that's, I think he enjoyed that. He got a kick out of, I don't know if he enjoyed it. Roy Satan is the last Republican, yes,

James Moore 1:19:56  
no, simply the latest or most.

Speaker 1 1:20:01  
Yeah, so that was it. But just as he was a nice person and get in the car, you these stories, you know, about driving over to Ken's dreams, you know, that would be, I was surprised that he was at my birthday party. I yeah, I don't know. I would not have, I

Unknown Speaker 1:20:18  
think probably Dave Hunt, probably he

Unknown Speaker 1:20:22  
was the one who probably asked him,

James Moore 1:20:25  
Who, by the way, has asked me, I'll be

Unknown Speaker 1:20:30  
speaking at Rotary.

Speaker 1 1:20:34  
Oh, yeah, my son won't have him take me as a guest. When is it?

James Moore 1:20:37  
It's October. Sometime.

Have my calendar right here. It's the advantage of having one of these things. Yeah, it's always right there.

Freaking city, Rotary, Wednesday, October 1. Oh, really, Museum of the Oregon territory. Oh, really, okay, okay. I

Speaker 1 1:21:32  
Okay, put that down, see if I can't get an invite.

Speaker 1 1:21:40  
My son was a member, Jim Warren.

Speaker 1 1:21:56

I just thought it would like seem to have coffee with us. Yeah, do that sort of stuff. Usually. By the way, he loved the Pacific. That was, that was, I'm so glad you got that done. Yeah, beforehand, yeah.

James Moore 1:22:14

You know timing in hindsight, of course, is perfect. But, uh, yeah, it was he, he put it up there with his wedding and his first inauguration.

Speaker 1 1:22:28

That's when first, first outings in a long time. Yeah? Thinking maybe the last, maybe

James Moore 1:22:32

the last, yeah, last I heard from Denny. The kids are pretty much shutting up the house because she broke her hip.

Unknown Speaker 1:22:39

Oh yeah, so she can't go back? Yeah, sure.

Speaker 1 1:22:42

My my grandson went with my son in law to pick up to bring him over to the birthday party. And my grandson will be 13, and the governor so great, taking around, showing different things. Oh yes, yeah, that's great. We'll never forget

Speaker 1 1:23:00

Yeah. Never forget that. Yeah. Did you

Speaker 1 1:23:08

you know about the governor involved with the drink your milk, baby campaign?

James Moore 1:23:14

I've heard about this, but I don't know about this, so tell me.

Speaker 1 1:23:18

Well, it was big advertisement, advertising campaign. Drink your milk, baby. Here's the governor. I'll show you a picture down here. My my two daughters and their friend. He's he's here at the house or something on Dave and Chris and Tracy, the next door neighbor, run into him with baby. I've got that picture. It's a cute picture. That's great. But he was, I don't know how they got him involved with that campaign. Yeah, they drink your milk. Baby

James Moore 1:23:51

was this while he was governor. He was the guy, yeah? Because

Speaker 1 1:23:55

she was the NRA as well. They also paired with a rifle in the NRA, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. He was a gun collector. Yeah. Loved his guns.

James Moore 1:24:04

Yeah. The university is trying to figure out. Fortunately, he's given all his guns away pretty much. Oh, did he? But we need to have one gun in the archive, something to show that hasn't mean that was a big, important part. Oh, he really was. He wasn't a hunter. He was a gun gun collector,

Speaker 1 1:24:19

yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. He was a proud member there. I don't know,

Unknown Speaker 1:24:25

I don't how proud he was. Right to end, well, there's

James Moore 1:24:27

something I never had a chance to ask him in 93 I think it was 93 so it's the first time he's doing the oral history. They were asking him about that stuff, and that's right about the time then, or a little bit after, is when George Bush Senior renounced his membership. And so I don't know, I was going to ask the governor about that. I definitely no, he didn't announce so he was NRA up to the end, yeah, but he did make some comments about they're just focusing on, yeah? I'm this rather than this broad,

Speaker 1 1:25:03

yeah, yeah. I would think he had a little discomfort, yeah, some of the things to do, yeah, what was the other one that he future? Boy Scouts? Oh, boy scouts. Big, big boy scout. Yeah, yeah, that's it. He's

James Moore 1:25:15

funny talking about being on boards and things like that, of nonprofits and things like that. Said, you know, they give me all these awards, and they asked me to sit on boards. And eventually I said, I don't want to go to meetings, so I'll be on your board. But here's the deal, I don't want to go to the meetings. If you have a special project, I'd love to do it, yeah? But I don't need to go to these meetings.

Boy Scouts got to be like that. Yeah,

Speaker 1 1:25:41

yeah, they had Boy Scouts have 90s birthday party. Okay, I think there's some Yeah. Was there something I want to tell you that I thought she might

Unknown Speaker 1:25:52

let me just take you down. Okay, sure, please excuse me. I.