

Ken Buchanan Public Administrator – Community Involvement

Ken Buchanan was born in Pinal County in 1953 and raised in Eloy, Arizona. Ken is a product of the Eloy Elementary School District and a 1971 graduate of Santa Cruz Valley Union High School. Ken was a two year member of the SCVUHS Letterman's Club and played Varsity Basketball in the 1970 and 1971 seasons.

After graduation from Santa Cruz, Ken continued his education at Central Arizona College graduating in 1973 with an Associate of Science Degree. He then attended Arizona State University graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1975 and masters of Public Administration in 1988. Ken also holds a Certificate from the John F. Kennedy School of Government Senior Executive Program, Harvard University received in 2000.

Ken returned home to Eloy to accept a position with the City of Eloy as a Recreation Supervisor and soon after promoted to Parks and Recreation Director where he spent five years providing a comprehensive recreation and open space program for the community and its citizens. Ken was appointed as Assistant to the City Manager where he assisted the Mayor, City of Council and City Manager with implementing many municipal initiatives. Ken later went on to be Town Manager for the Towns of Florence and Payson and City Manager for the City of Casa Grande and Assistant County Manager for Pinal County. His last position was Town Manager for the Town of Fountain Hills to end his forty (40) year career.

Among Ken's many affiliations and recognitions include a forty year member of the International City/Country Management Association and was president of the Arizona City/County Management Association in 1993. A member of the Executive Committee of the Greater Casa Grande Economic Development foundation and was awarded "Business Leader of the Year" from the Casa Grande Chamber of Commerce in 2003 for his work on standing member of the Central Arizona College Foundation that established the "Promise for the Future" scholarship program that assists high school graduates from Pinal County High Schools with tuition assistance to advance their higher learning pursuits. Ken was also Secretary/Treasurer of the Pinal County University Foundation that was instrumental in constructing the Gloria Sheldon University Building at Central Arizona College, Signal Peak Campus in the effort to provide closer access to bachelors and masters level education pursuits to the Pinal County citizens.

Ken is a "Wall of Success" Hall of Fame Alumni Recipient from Central Arizona College and received the "John J. DeBolske Award for Professional Excellence in City Management from the Arizona City/County Management Association in 2012.