Gov. Pete Ricketts

Gov. Pete Ricketts was sworn in as Nebraska’s 40th governor on Jan. 8, 2015. Gov. Ricketts was first elected to office upon winning the Nebraska gubernatorial election on Nov. 4, 2014. Prior to his election as governor, he worked to support Nebraska entrepreneurs and startup companies.

Born in Nebraska City and raised in Omaha, Ricketts is the son of an entrepreneur and a public school teacher. Gov. Ricketts and his wife, First Lady Susanne Shore, have been married for 17 years and live in Omaha with their three children, sophomores Roscoe and Margot and 8th grader Eleanor.

Ricketts graduated from Westside High School before attending the University of Chicago where he earned his bachelor’s degree in biology and an MBA in marketing and finance. After graduate school, Ricketts returned to Omaha and worked for Union Pacific before working as a customer services representative in his family’s business, a company that would eventually become known as TD Ameritrade.

He went on to hold leadership roles in the company including senior vice president of strategy and business development, senior vice president of product development, senior vice president of marketing, president, and chief operating officer. He also is a past member of TD Ameritrade’s board of directors.

Ricketts is the founder of Drakon, LLC that supports local entrepreneurs and startup companies. He also serves as a director for the Chicago Cubs baseball team.

Driven by a desire to give back to his community and create education and job opportunities, Gov. Ricketts has taken on leadership roles in local and state associations and organizations. Currently, he serves on the boards of the Mid-America Council of the Boy Scouts and the Christian Urban Education Foundation (CUES).

Additionally, he serves as a director for the Children’s Scholarship Fund Foundation, a director of the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation, a member of the Board of Advisors of Opportunity Education Foundation, a member of the Archbishop’s Committee for Development, a member of the Knights of Columbus, and a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre. Gov. Ricketts and his family attend St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church.