



Name: Martin Van Buren

Years: December 5, 1782 – July 24, 1862

Residence: Kinderhook, New York.

Brief Biography: Martin Van Buren was born on December 5, 1782 in Kinderhook, New York. Kinderhook was a Dutch community so Dutch was the first language Martin learned with English as his second. After he finished school he went to New York City and worked under the politician William P. Van Ness. He would then go on to pass his BAR exam. He went into politics at the age of 17 years old. He assisted many politicians but would not receive a position until 1812, when Martin was elected as a Senator in New York State. He held this position for four consecutive terms and in the process also became the Attorney General of New York. Afterwards he became a Senator for New York State in Congress for two terms but later resigned to become Governor of New York. He had one of the shortest terms as governor because he was later put on Andrew Jackson's Cabinet as Secretary of State a few months later. Martin Van Buren stayed with Jackson for both terms; however, on the second term he was to be Jackson's Vice-President. Van Buren later ran himself for President in 1836 and won. He was considered the first president who was an official born citizen of the United States. After one term as president he failed to be re-elected. After two more attempts of running for President, he retired to his residence in Kinderhook. Martin Van Buren passed away on July 24, 1862.

Major Accomplishments:

- Was a Senator, Attorney General and the Governor of New York
- Was a Senator representing New York in the National Government
- Was Secretary of State under Andrew Jackson's first term of President
- Was Andrew Jackson's Vice-President in his second term
- Was the eighth President of the United States

For more Information:

For more information please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/martinvanburen> for a brief biography.

Resources: Alexander, Holmes. *The American Talleyrand: Martin Van Buren*. New York: Russell & Russell 1935.

By Joe Palaia