Re not running again. "The thing that cinched it for me was when I saw that we spent $150,000 on the campaign. That was just too rich for my blood. I couldn't go around every two years dunning my friends for that kind of money--especially not in a seat that wasn't viable for the Republicans anyway. It was easy when you spent $25-35,000. Then you could go around and collect $100 here and $100 there. But not the huge amounts. We found out our opponent ended up spending $495,000."

Said he had no regrets and didn't miss it. "It seems so long ago."

Interesting thing is that guy may be willing to spend a lot of money once or even twice--but not to hold onto a marginal, declining seat. Clearly, it gets harder & harder. A person like that gives up, I suppose people who try twice & fail to win do quit. So do people by & hang on sometimes quiet when it gets too hard. My dad said he idea of losing is the quiet rather than to run one more difficult now."