## Thad Bynum

Thad Bynum graduated from Rabun County High School with the class of 1976. After graduation, he quickly joined the Army and spent the next three years on active duty. Upon completion of his duty, Thad attended North Georgia College for two years. During this time, he was a member of the National Guard and he was commissioned as an officer. After his commissioning he spent several months in Oklahoma on active duty again.

Upon completion of his second tour of active duty, Thad returned to Clayton and attended Piedmont College for two years and graduated. He majored in Accounting and minored in Business Administration.

After graduation, Thad began working at his father's law office doing real estate title work. He also married his wife, Janelle, who he met during his time at Piedmont College. After a few years in the law office, he began working for the Bank of Clayton and he worked there for several years.

It was a this point that Thad decided he wanted to pursue a career in insurance and he began working for Georgia Farm Bureau Insurance. He spent the next 12 years at Georgia Farm Bureau and then he and Janelle decided to open their own independent insurance agency. In 2002, Thad and Janelle opened Bynum Insurance Agency.

Thad has served on various community boards. He served on the Rabun County Library Board for 17 years. He has also served on the Northeast Georgia Red Cross Board and the Rabun Cross Society Board. He is a deacon at his church. He also has served on the State Board of Independent Insurance Agents, serving as president for the 2017-2018 year.

Thad believes his greatest accomplishment is when he accepted the Lord as his savior. He also believes one of the great accomplishments he has been a part of was raising the cross on Black Rock. He is very proud of his family, his wife, Janelle, and their two sons. He is so proud that he will become a granddaddy in January to a baby girl.

When asked if he had any words of wisdom for current Rabun County students, Thad mentioned:

• "Take high school serious so you aren't playing catch up later in life."

