

THOMAS GAUN

Class of 1988



Tom Gaun graduated from Mynderse Academy in 1988 where he participated in three sports, football, basketball and baseball.

Tom joined Special Olympics through a program supported by Seneca ARC approximately 33 years ago. He continues to compete in Special Olympics in volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, softball, bocce, bowling, track & field and soccer. He has been awarded medals in each of these sports. It is estimated that Tom has been awarded over one hundred medals throughout his years of competition. Most notably, Tom has received two National medals as an athlete.

Seneca ARC no longer supports the Special Olympics program, but that didn't stop Tom. He continued to participate with the Finger Lakes Training Program, which serves athletes in Seneca, Wayne, Ontario and Yates counties. Throughout his time in this program, Tom has exemplified the qualities of a Lifetime Contributor of Mynderse Academy, modeling sportsmanship and teamwork. He has also assisted in field and court preparations, both for athletic practices and competition.

Through his efforts, along with his teammates, they have participated in two National tournaments. The first time was in 2014 in New Jersey where he and his team competed in volleyball. Then again in 2022 where Tom and his teammates competed in softball, nationally, in Orlando, Florida.

All along the way, Tom has freely participated in fundraisers and demonstrations. He has been employed at the local WalMart for over 20 years.

When Tom can no longer compete athletically, he aspires to become a coach.