

Pennsylvania State Representative Thomas Murt

Business/Military



In Archbishop Wood's history of successful graduates, few have achieved the same level of success as Class of '78 graduate, Thomas Murt. After graduating from Wood, Tom went on to a career in politics, a field in which he has strived for excellence and has accomplished many goals. Aside from his work-related success, Tom still devotes time to helping his community and supporting his former high school. These are some of the many reasons Thomas Murt for which being inducted into the 2016 Wood Hall of Fame.

After graduating from Archbishop Wood in 1978, Tom went to college at Penn State University, and earned his masters at La Salle University. In 2006, Tom was elected as a Pennsylvania State Representative. As representative, he has played an active role in promoting some important activities and organizations in our community. He is the current Chairman of the Human Services Subcommittee on Mental Health, and the Bipartisan House of Representatives Disability Caucus. He has also organized various food and clothing distribution programs to benefit homeless citizens of the Philadelphia area. However, perhaps Tom's greatest work has been with his various Veterans service projects. In Pennsylvania he is even known as the Voice of Veterans.

Tom's devotion to Pennsylvania's veterans comes as no surprise, given the fact that he served in the military from 1990-2007. He served overseas in Iraq from 2003-2004. For his service, he was nominated for the Humanitarian Service Medal, and was nominated twice for the Army Reserve Command's "New Commissioned Officer of the Year."

Since graduating from Wood, Tom has also gone on to work in several other schools. In the mid-80s, Tom taught business at Archbishop Ryan, and currently instructs part time at Penn State Abington. Aside from this, he also has a very impressive coaching career as well. He was the head wrestling coach at La Salle University from 1983-1989. When he became the coach, he was the youngest D1 head coach in the entire country. He helped make LaSalle's team one of the most successful teams on the east coast, and took them to the National Catholic Invitational Wrestling tournament every year of his career.

Despite his success later on in his life, Tom still looks back humbly on his days as an Archbishop Wood Viking. His favorite memories include being a member of the Student Council, the "first elected office he ever held," and, of course, being a member of the Wrestling program for four years. He specifically remembers Mr. Peters very fondly as both a teacher and coach.

Archbishop Wood is a place where students are driven to succeed, and no one is a greater testament to this than Thomas Murt. Because of the role he plays in our community and the work he has done after high school, we proudly welcome Thomas Murt into the Archbishop Wood Hall of Fame.