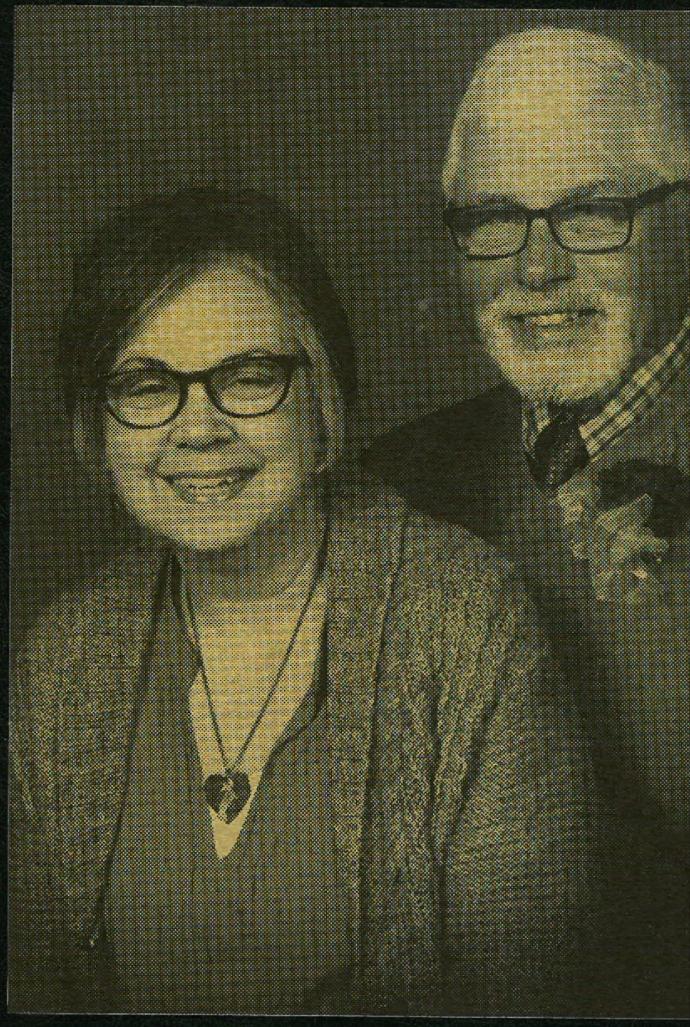


O F H S



WALL OF FAME

Inducted September 21, 2019



THOMAS JOSEPH MILHEISER

Thomas Joseph Milheiser was born November 17, 1948 in Oconto Falls to Louis and Madeline Milheiser. He attended St. Anthony's School for eight years before enrolling at Oconto Falls High School as a member of the Class of 1967. Tom excelled at Oconto Falls High School as a student and as a standout athlete in football, basketball, and baseball. After graduation, Tom attended the Oshkosh Technical School for Conservation. Shortly after graduating, Tom was drafted into the US Army during the Vietnam War, serving two years, which included eighteen months in the Panama Canal Zone. Returning home after being honorably discharged from service, Tom began working for the Soil and Water Conservation District as a soil and water technician. Tom worked primarily with dairy farmers to drain fields and control erosion from farm fields to local rivers and streams. Tom was quickly promoted to County Conservationist, which resulted in managing larger projects including the Little River Priority Watershed and helping farmers receive millions of dollars in funding through the State Priority Watershed Fund. Tom served the Oconto County Conservation Committee and surrounding areas for thirty-nine years.

During the 1980's, Tom served on the Oconto Falls City Council as the Second Ward City Councilman for six years. During his tenure, the council built our current city fire station. Tom also served as the Oconto Falls Library President when it was built in 1991. After leaving the council, Tom served on the Oconto Falls Memorial Hospital Funding Committee, which focused at the time on purchasing new MRI equipment. Tom currently serves as a parish trustee and usher for St. Anthony's Church.

Tom volunteered countless hours in our district coaching boy's and girl's basketball at St. Anthony's School. He also coached Babe Ruth Baseball, girl's youth softball, and American Legion Baseball; he led the Legion Team to a Division II state appearance in his tenure. Tom served many years as the charter president of the Oconto Falls Jaycees. Along with many other community members, Tom led the growth of the group as an outstanding volunteer organization. The Jaycees organized the Oconto Falls Memorial Day celebration, started the Memorial Day weekend softball tournament, built the playground at Memorial Field, filled sandboxes for children in the spring at no cost, and helped families in need at Thanksgiving and Christmas. At age thirty-five, Tom was awarded the JCI Senatorship Award by the US Jaycees. One of Tom's greatest motivations comes from the Jaycee Creed, "Service to humanity is the best work in life."

Tom married his wife, Jill, in the fall of 1972. Tom and Jill have three children: Joel, Amanda, and Kaylee, all of whom are successful and portray the values of hard work and family that their parents instilled in them. Tom and Jill have two grandsons, Aedan and August, and three great dogs.

9