

**Thomas J. Morris III** is a 1973 graduate of PHS. He graduated from Grove City College in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps Reserve after having enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve Platoon Leaders Class program in 1973 while a student at Grove City College. He completed United States Marine Corps Officer Candidate School during the summers of 1974 and 1976. Tom entered the University of Akron School of Law in 1977 and earned a Juris Doctorate degree in 1980. Tom passed the Ohio Bar Exam in 1980 and was admitted to the Ohio Bar.

While a student at PHS, Tom was a letterman in Cross Country, Winter Track, and Spring Track. He organized the first recycling drives in Gloucester County for Paulsboro, Greenwich Township, and Logan Township. He was one of two students who represented his Class at New Jersey Boys State. Tom was one of the first members of the Gibbstown Volunteer Fire Company, Rescue Squad, and Ambulance Squad under 21 years of age and he continued providing similar service as an Instructor in First Aid for The Red Cross while in college.

Tom was President of the Grove City College Outing Club and shot on the College Rifle Team for four years. He has continued to mentor students in the Grove City College Outing Club since 1977, accompanying them on trips and providing financial assistance.

Tom began extended active duty in 1981 and graduated from The Basic School, a six-month course in small unit infantry tactics in Quantico, Virginia. He then attended and graduated from the Naval Justice School in Newport, Rhode Island and was designated a Judge Advocate.

Tom served as the Base Defense Counsel and Legal Assistance Officer at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California in 1981-1982. He was also admitted to the Federal Bar for the District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, the Federal Bar for the Federal Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Federal Bar for the Court of Military Appeals.

Tom was stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina from 1983-1986 where he was a Defense Counsel, Trial Counsel (Prosecutor) and Legal Assistance Officer. He served as Deputy Law Center Director. He was Officer in Charge of the Base Rifle & Pistol Teams. He was appointed a Special Deputy US Attorney out of Atlanta to prosecute civilians on Base. He received the Navy Commendation Medal for his Legal Assistance Program in 1986.

Tom left active duty in 1986 after which he passed the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Bar Exams and was admitted to both Bars in 1987. He was admitted to the Federal Bar for the District Court of New Jersey in 1987. Tom became the Site Judge Advocate for Marine Mobilization Station 191 in Philadelphia from 1987-1989.

Tom became an Assistant Gloucester County Prosecuting Attorney in 1988 and served as a trial attorney through 1991. Tom taught criminal law at both the Gloucester and Camden Counties Police Academies.

Tom retired from the Reserve with over 23 years of service in 1997 after having reached the rank of Major.

Tom lives in Thorofare and has two sons.