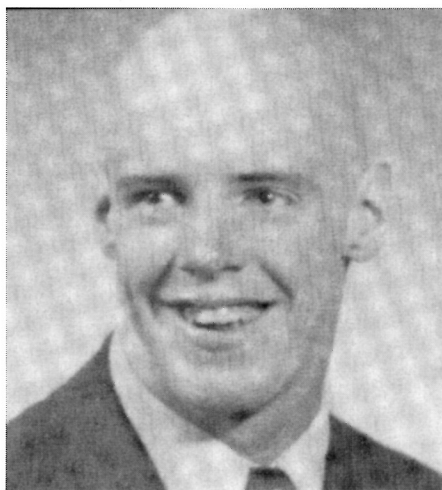




Thomas J. Cullen, Jr. **Class of 1976**

Thomas J. "Waxie" Cullen, Jr. came to Milford High School as a junior in the fall of 1974 when St. Mary's Central Catholic High School closed its doors for the final time. Despite spending just two years at MHS, he left his mark on the gridiron, on the basketball court and as a member of the Track & Field Team. He quickly earned the respect of his teammates and was elected captain of both the football and basketball teams during his senior year.

Waxie had an immediate impact in basketball, becoming a starter as a forward and center during his first year at Milford High. He averaged 12 points and 15 rebounds per game as a junior, highlighted by his 21 points and 15 rebounds in a double overtime loss to Clinton. His efforts earned him a spot on the Midland League All Star Team in 1975.

Although he only competed on the track team for one season, he was a solid contributor as a weight man. His many second and third place points in the shot put helped the team capture the Midland League Championship in 1975.

It was on the football field, however, that Waxie earned his reputation as a warrior who played the game with passion and pride. At 6-foot-2 and 215 pounds, he was a key cog as a defensive end and co-captain on Milford's first Super Bowl Championship Team, led by Head Coach Dick Corbin, in 1975. A vocal leader, he played alongside Howie Long, Pat Cornelius, Brian Saulen and Tony Morelli in Milford's "52-beat-em-up" formation. His aggressive style led the Scarlet Hawks to a 9-1 regular season record, followed by a 42-14 demolition of Pittsfield in the Division I title game. These achievements added credence to that team's claim of being the best football team in Milford High School history.

Tom went on to play football as a walk-on at Youngstown State. He became a four-year starter at defensive end and was voted to the Associated Press I-AA All American Team as a junior. His coaching career began as an assistant at Milford High and included stints as an assistant at UMass-Amherst and Head Coach at Amherst High School.

Thomas F. Davoren **Class of 1925**



Thomas F. Davoren was an outstanding all-around athlete, a fierce competitor and a leader among his teammates. From 1922 through 1925, he was a three-sport athlete in football, basketball and baseball.

Tom was the quarterback of the legendary 1924 football team that amassed a 10-1-1 record under Coach Hop Riopel. He was captain of the baseball team his senior year, and also received two prizes of \$ 5.00 in gold for having the highest batting average and best fielding percentage. He was the recipient of the Dr. John V. Gallagher medal awarded to a senior athlete for excellence in athletic and academics.

After graduating from Milford High, Tom was awarded a full athletic scholarship to Little Rock College. In 1926, he transferred to Boston College where he was scheduled to be the starting catcher. Unfortunately, the death of his father in May 1927 forced Tom to leave BC and become the sole supporter for his mother and four younger siblings. He continued to participate in organized sports, playing on Milford's Blackstone Valley League championship team in 1933. He also played baseball in the Twilight League basketball with Company I of the Milford National Guard. In 1935, he won the Town of Milford Tennis Championship.

Fellow Hall of Famer Charles Espanet reminisced. "Tom Davoren was the fiercest competitor I ever saw and played against." Robert Pagnini, another Hall of Fame athlete remarked, "Tom was so good in so many sports he was in a league of his own." In the words of Atty. William A. Murray, "I watched him play tennis in the mid thirties, and again he demonstrated what a consummate athlete he was."