



Walks of Life 2024 Honoree

Thomas J. Coyne

Tom Coyne is one of a small number of second generation Walks of Life Honorees; his parents, Jack and Mary Coyne, were honored in 1998. He is a prominent local attorney with a far reaching, national reputation. He has served for over 20 years as the Chair of Thompson Hine's national real estate group, which he has grown to some 50 attorneys nationwide. Tom has handled billions in commercial transactions, touching every state in the country and numerous foreign jurisdictions over his 40-year career, with a focus on commercial real estate development and corporate real estate. He is a Fellow of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers (ACREL), where he is a frequent speaker and author.

Tom has held numerous leadership positions throughout his career, both in the real estate industry and in service to the Greater Cleveland community. Tom currently serves as Chair of the Downtown Cleveland Improvement Corporation (DCIC), which strives to build a clean and safe environment for downtown workers, residents and visitors by addressing the problems of crime, the unsheltered community and activating downtown public spaces. Tom is a former Chair of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Inc., which is dedicated to revitalizing local Cleveland neighborhoods. Tom is also the former Chair of Family Transitional Housing, Inc., which focused on redeveloping abandoned housing for homeless women with children. Tom is a Board Member of Edwin's Leadership and Restaurant Institute, which provides "second chance" culinary and hospitality management training and other support services to formerly incarcerated adults. Tom is also the former Chair of the Real Estate Committee of the United States Law Firm Group, which comprises 19 major law firms around the country.

Tom is a graduate of Gilmour Academy, The College of the Holy Cross (Phi Beta Kappa), and Notre Dame Law School, where he served on the Editorial Board of the *Notre Dame Law Review*.

Tom's grandparents (carrying the surnames Burke, O'Rourke, Joyce and Coyne) hailed from the west coast and the north of Ireland, including Leenaun in County Galway; Garrafrauns in County Galway; Connemara in County Galway; and Newry in County Down. They all emigrated through Ellis Island between 1918 and 1924. The entire Coyne family remains in contact with their many relatives in Ireland, who from time to time visit the Coynes in Cleveland.

Tom met his high school sweetheart, Maria Carbone Coyne, in 1976, and they have been together ever since. Now married over 40 years, they reside in Shaker Heights. Maria currently serves as President and CEO of the Cornerstone Fund, which, among other things, makes loans nationwide to faith-based organizations for socially responsible community projects. Tom and Maria are parents of Patrick Coyne (married to Joanna), who is a Harvard College graduate and founder of Laoban, Inc., a national food manufacturing company based in Washington D.C., and Dr. Katie Coyne (married to Dr. Andrew Hornick), a University of Notre Dame graduate and specialist in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at University Hospitals in Cleveland. Tom and Maria are also grandparents to Emilia Diantha ("Edie") Coyne, daughter of Patrick and Joanna, and now part-time guardians to Katie and Andrew's new dog, Paddy!