

Tom Coffey, Business, Doctor of Humanities

Tom Coffey was the recipient of the honorary Doctor of Humanities in 2010. Eastern Kentucky University awarded him the degree for his accomplishments in the field of business and Technology, his commendable record of military service, and his dedication to the community.

Mr. Coffey grew up in Nashville, Tennessee. He moved to Kentucky and attended Eastern Kentucky University in the early 1960s, pursuing a degree in political science and English. After graduating from Eastern Kentucky University, Mr. Coffey served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. His years of dedicated service led him to become a highly decorated soldier within the U.S. Military, where he received a Bronze Star, a Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, and an Army Commendation Medal. Following his tour with the military, he started a highly successful career in insurance.

Mr. Coffey was the former president of the Lincoln National Midsouth Corporation, which was once part of the largest financial services firms in the Kentucky-Tennessee region. Since then, he has held numerous executive positions within both Lincoln National Life Insurance Company and Penn Mutual Insurance. Mr. Coffey has received both recognition and high praise for business growth and production on a regional, as well as national scale.

Eastern Kentucky University is his beloved alma mater, and he has never lost touch with it since graduation day. As such, Mr. Coffey supports numerous programs at the University. For example, the Insurance Studies Program benefits greatly from his assistance. He is also a long-standing member of the Eastern Kentucky University Foundation's Board of Directors, serving on the Foundation's Executive and Finance Committees. He continues to be a tremendous

spokesperson for Eastern Kentucky University students pursuing careers in insurance and financial services.