

Thomas C. Smith, Jr., PGA
Woody's Range, Inc., Herndon, Virginia

Tommy was born November 21, 1958 in Glen Cove on Long Island, New York to Florence and Thomas Smith, Sr. Tommy has three brothers, Michael, William, and Kevin.

Tommy's father died two years ago, but his mom still lives in Florida. His father was a Boy Scout Troop Leader and his mother was involved with the American Legion Auxiliary as well as the 4H Club and Girl Scouts.

Tommy's grandparents, William and Agnes Yannotti (both deceased), were very supportive, encouraging, and influential in Tommy's life. William played professional softball for one season with the Boston Brewers. Agnes was in the very first Girl Scout Troop; she was also active in the American Legion Auxiliary and won many honors and awards during her service there. His grandparents taught him to always do his best plus a little bit more. Tommy's grandparents instilled integrity, trust, and loyalty; they encouraged him to follow his dreams and golf just happened to be one of them.

Tommy began his golf career at age 12 as a caddie at The Mill River Club in Oyster Bay on Long Island, New York. Tommy was the number one player on the Locust Valley High School golf team. In 1976, Tommy won All Division Honors. He also played defensive linebacker for the school's football team. He won a football scholarship, but during his last game as a high school senior Tommy suffered a career-ending knee injury.

The Mill River Club's head PGA Professional, Bobby Weber, taught Tommy the basics of the game of golf while Tommy worked his way up to bag room attendant then assistant golf professional. Tommy then went to work for Larry Laoretti, PGA in 1980 at Pine Hollow Country Club in East Norwich, New York. He registered as an apprentice in 1981. Tommy moved to Florida in 1983 and began working at Sun City Center Golf School in Sun City Center, Florida. He met Jill Caswell during a lesson in 1984; they were happily married on April 6, 1985. It was Master's Weekend, her choice, not his, and it was the first golf tournament they watched together. Jill is Tommy's number one admirer and has always motivated and supported him to be all that he can be.

Tommy was elected to PGA membership in 1988. From 1992-1995, he was the general manager and head PGA Professional at Palmetto Pines Golf Club in Palmetto, Florida while working as a PGA teaching professional at The Original Golf School in Mount Snow, Florida. From 1995-1997, Tommy was the general manager and head PGA Professional at Brantwood Golf Course in Elkton, Maryland. In 1999, he became an assistant PGA Professional at Montgomery Country Club in Laytonsville, Maryland. He was then promoted to the director of golf position at Greencastle Greens Golf Course in Greencastle, Pennsylvania. Since 1997, Tommy has worked (part and full-time) as a PGA teaching professional at Woody's Range in Herndon, Virginia. Woody Fitzhugh,

PGA has been very influential in Tommy's life, not only as a friend and fellow PGA Professional, but also as a mentor and a spiritual leader.

Tommy has been a member of the MAPGA's Membership Committee since 1997 and the Assistants Committee from 2000-2001. Tommy has also served as the Central Chapter's Eastern Director since 2000, the Chair of the Central Chapter's Membership Committee since 2001, and the Chair of the Central Chapter's Junior Golf Committee from 2002-2003. Whenever the call goes out for a volunteer, Tommy is almost always the first to answer. He is remarkably giving to The PGA with his time.

Tommy has served as a PAT examiner since 1997, is a Rules Official, and has published articles in *PROS N' HACKERS* magazine. Tommy volunteers for Special Olympics golf and has taught junior clinics at the Booz Allen Classic since 1999. He served as the APA's President from 2000-2001.

Tommy's motto is "It's not about what The PGA can do for me – it's about what more I can do for The PGA." He has had the privilege of working with many fine golf professionals through his career and the lessons Tommy learned from each of them he has applied to golf as well as to life. He is honored to be a member of an organization that strives for excellence. Golf is a game of character, respect, and challenges. Tommy is proud to be a part of such a game and believes that one of the greatest accomplishments for a PGA Professional is to see one's student accept the guidance given them to unleash their natural ability.