

# Official Governor's Awards Nomination Form

## Nominee Information

Full Name: Thomas Edwin Thornhill

Street Address: 1512 Fairway Drive

City, State, Zip: Charleston, SC 29412-2613

Phone Number: (843) 723-0728 E-mail: thornhill@cctre.com

Date of Birth: October 7, 1928

## Award Category *\*See Descriptions of Awards.*

Please check the award category for the nominee based on the awards descriptions:

- ☒ The Order of the Palmetto  
☐ The Order of the Silver Crescent  
☐ The Certificate of Appreciation

## Nominator's Information

Full Name: Wilbur E. Johnson

Organization Name: Historic Charleston Foundation

Street Address: 40 East Bay Street

City, State, Zip: Charleston, SC 29401

Phone Number: (843) 724-6694 E-mail: wjohnson@yclaw.com

## Requested Presentation Date and Event Details *\*Please provide as many event details as possible including event description as well as location and time.*

Historic Charleston Foundation's Charter Day Celebration on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the

founding of the foundation. Event to be held at 6:00 PM on Thursday, April 27 at the Foundation's headquarters  
at 40 East Bay Street in Charleston, SC.

# THOMAS E. THORNHILL



Thomas Edwin "Tommy" Thornhill is a Charleston native with over 33 years of experience in the gas and oil business and another 30 years of experience in commercial real estate. He served as the Secretary-Treasurer of Seaboard Gas Company, a distributor of LP-Gas, and then as Vice President and Treasurer of Charleston Oil Company. After participating in the sale of these companies, he taught business at The Citadel. He became a commercial real estate agent in 1981 with the Max Hill Real Estate Co., and then was a founding stockholder in 1993 of Clement, Crawford and Thornhill, Inc., serving as the president, then served as the President Emeritus and Secretary-Treasurer in 2000. Tommy is a CCIM, a Certified Commercial Investment Member of the National Association of Realtors, the highest designation in the commercial real estate industry. There are fewer than 150 CCIM's in the State of South Carolina.

Mr. Thornhill is active in community and state affairs. In addition to serving on numerous civic boards and committees, he has served as president of The Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, Historic Charleston Foundation, the Kiwanis Club, the Charles Towne Landing Foundation, the Charlestowne Neighborhood Association, and the United Way. He also served on the SC Water Resources Commission, the SC Tricentennial Commission, and as president of the Clemson National Alumni Association. He served as chairman of the Charleston County Tricentennial Celebration in 1970. He is active in Grace Episcopal Church, where he served 20 years on the vestry during the period from 1960 to 2010, with 2 years as Warden, and has chaired two major capital construction campaigns.

Mr. Thornhill has an engineering degree from Clemson University and a certificate in business from Babson College. He lettered at Clemson in Tennis and as a manager with the Basketball team. From Clemson, he was commissioned as an Army officer and retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a Lt. Colonel after 26 years of service. He received an honorable discharge after serving in the U.S. Army Transport Service, as deck crew on the Hospital Ship "USHS Milne," during WWII at age 16. He has been recognized for his leadership with the Jaycee Distinguishable Service Award, the Silver Beaver Award of the Boy Scouts, the Clemson Alumni Distinguished Service Award, the Chamber of Commerce Joseph P. Riley Award, the 2005

Commercial REALTOR® of the Year award and the Frances R. Edmunds Award for outstanding and lifelong efforts in preservation. In 2014, the Kiwanis Club started a scholarship endowment at the Coastal Community Foundation in Thornhill's honor. Mr. Thornhill also founded, and is president of, the Old Charleston Joggling Board Co., which distributes replicas of joggling boards, a unique part of Charleston culture. Mr. Thornhill and a friend, Harrington Bissell, renovated the Provost Dungeon under the Exchange Building and operated it as a tourist attraction for over 10 years. The State of South Carolina took over the operation of the building on the nation's bicentennial, 1976. He served on the Boards of Financial Holdings, Inc. and First Federal Savings and Loan Association for over 25 years. He lost his wife of 50 years, Mardelle, to cancer in 2003, survived by Mardelle and Tommy's two daughters and four granddaughters. Tommy continues to enjoy playing golf, boating, woodworking, and gardening.

April 3, 2017

**THOMAS EDWIN THORNHILL**

Born October 7, 1928  
Charleston, SC

**HOME ADDRESS**

1512 Fairway Drive  
Charleston, SC 29412  
(843) 723-0728

**BUSINESS ADDRESS**

CC&T Real Estate Services  
1601 Oceanic Street  
Charleston, SC 29405  
[tthornhill@cctre.com](mailto:tthornhill@cctre.com)  
(843) 577-6722  
Fax: (843) 577-0153

Family:

Father: Theodore Wilbur Thornhill (deceased)  
Mother: Ama Van Noy (Smith) Thornhill (deceased)  
Brother: Van Noy Thornhill (deceased)  
Wife: Mardelle Musk Thornhill - Married May 16, 1953 (deceased)  
Daughters: Anne C. Thornhill - Born August 31, 1955 - Married Christian T. Weston, III  
Ama Van Noy Thornhill - Born September 16, 1966 - Married Christopher L. Couch

Schooling:

Public Schools of Charleston  
Graduated Charleston High School, 1944  
Graduated Clemson University, 1948 - BS in Electrical Engineering  
One Year Post Graduate - Babson College 1949  
CCIM Designation, National Association of Realtors, 1988

Military:

U.S. Army Transport Service, Hospital Ship "USS Milne"; U.S. Army Honorable Discharge, July 15, 1945 (16 yrs. old)  
26 years in Army Ready Reserve, Retired 1974  
Lt Col. - Artillery

Church:

Grace Episcopal Church  
Member of Vestry 17 years (from 1960's to 1990's); Junior Warden, 1964; Senior Warden, 1965

Business:

Commercial Realtor and President, Clement, Crawford & Thornhill, Inc., 1993 - Present  
Vice President & Treasurer, Charleston Oil Company, 1963 - 1981, Sold Company in 1981  
Vice President & Treasurer, Seaboard Gas Co., 1948 - 1963, Sold Company in 1963  
Board of Directors, First Federal Savings & Loan Association, 1979 - Present  
Board of Directors, First Financial Holdings, Inc., 1987 - Present  
Partner, The Provost (Tourist attraction) (Taken over by the State, 1978)  
Partner, Cooper Estates (Real Estate Development) (completed 1976) Partner  
Camelot Village (Real Estate Development) (completed 1990) Limited  
Partner, Po-Sum (PO Folks Restaurant) 1982 - 88 Founder/President  
Old Charleston Juggling Board Company, 1970 - Present  
Author - Publisher, "Flags Over Carolina"  
Adjunct Professor of Business Administration, The Citadel 1981  
SCORE Counselor 1998

Honors & Awards:

Junior Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Service Award, 1963  
America's Outstanding Young Men, 1964  
Personalities of the South, 1969  
Boy Scouts of America, Silver Beaver Award for Community Service, 1970  
Clemson University Distinguished Alumni Award, 1975

THOMAS E. THORNHILL - Continued

SC Water Resources Commission Award, 1981  
Hixon Medal Kiwanis International, 1996  
The Joseph P. Riley Leadership Award, 1997

Organizations:

Key Club International, First International Secretary, 1944-45  
Charleston Junior Chamber of Commerce, Director 1950 - 51  
SC Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association, President 1959 - 60  
Charleston Development Board, Executive Board, 1952 - 58; 1962 - 64  
Greater Charleston Chamber of Commerce (Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce): Board of Directors, 1955 - 57; 1959 - 62; 1964 - 67; Vice President, 1962; President 1963  
Kiwanis Club of Charleston: Vice President, 1962 - 63; President 1964. Member since 1952  
United Community Services (United Way): Board and Committee, 1961 - 63; President 1965; Chairman, United Fund Campaign, 1964; Member budget Board, 1968; Chairman, Special Gifts Division, 1983  
Historic Charleston Foundation: Trustee, 1962 - 79; 1981 - 90; Treasurer, 1967 - 71, President, 1972 - 73 - 74. Past President Trustee 1990 - Present  
Historic Charleston Reproductions: Board Member, 1973 - Present; Chairman, 1973 - 1980  
Mayor's Municipal Auditorium Committee, 1964 - 68  
The Trident Community Foundation, Board member, 1974  
Tourism Management Committee, 1979 - 83  
Charleston County Health Study Committee, 1963 - 65  
Clemson Alumni Association; National Council Director, 1964 - 68; National President 1967  
SC Water Resources Commission, Commissioner. 1967 - 70, 1970 - 73  
Junior Achievement, Board of Directors, 1967 - 69  
Charles Towne Landing, Advisory Committee: Member, 1970 - 80; Chairman, 1976 - 78  
Ashley Hall School (Foundation): Trustee, 1975 - 88; President 1976 - 81  
Charleston Citywide Development Company, Director, 1979 - 80  
SC Tricentennial Commission, Commissioner, 1969 - 71  
Charleston County Tricentennial Committee, Chairman 1968 - 71  
Clemson Foundation, Trustee. 1968 - 73, 1973 - 78  
South Carolina Oil Fuel Institute, President, 1971 - 72  
Charleston Lawn Tennis Association, Director, 1970 - 73  
Charleston Concert Association, Director, 1969 - 1986 SC  
Chamber of Commerce, Director, 1971 - 73, 1973 - 76  
SC Oil Jobbers Association: Board of Directors, 1973 - 77; Treasurer, 1975; Vice President, 1976; President 1977 - 78  
Association of Tiger Lettermen of Clemson University, Director, 1973 - 75, 1983 - 86  
Charles Towne Landing Foundation, President 1977 - 87, Board Member 1977 - Present  
City of Charleston Tourism Commission, 1984 - 87  
Clemson University Board of Visitors. 1984 - 86. Vice Chairman, 1986  
Charleston Neighborhood Association, Vice President, 1987, President 1988 The  
New England Society of Charleston, President 1995 & 96

Personal Memberships:

Carolina Yacht Club  
New England Society  
St. Andrews Society  
Sons of Colonial Wars  
West Ashley Racquet Club  
Charleston Kiwanis Club



## City of Charleston

JOHN J. TECKLENBURG

MAYOR

April 18, 2017

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
Governor, State of South Carolina  
State House  
1100 Gervais Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor McMaster:

I am writing to submit a recommendation for Mr. Thomas Edwin Thornhill to receive the Order of the Palmetto. As I personally know Mr. Thornhill to be the consummate South Carolina gentleman, I do believe that you will find him to be worthy to receive the highest civilian honor in our great State.

Mr. Thornhill dedicated his life to serving our country, the state of South Carolina, and his local Charleston community from an early age. After his graduation from Charleston High School, Mr. Thornhill enlisted in the United States Army Transport Service, serving on the Hospital Ship USHS Milne before being honorably discharged. He graduated from Clemson University in 1948 and then spent 26 years in the United States Army Ready Reserve, retiring in 1974 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

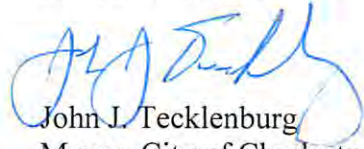
In addition to his military service, Mr. Thornhill has been an adjunct professor at The Citadel, an author and publisher of the book *Flags Over Carolina*, a partner in the renovation of The Provost Dungeon beneath the Old Exchange Building, and a commercial realtor and president. He has more than 33 years of experience in the gas and oil business, and another 30 years of experience in commercial real estate. Mr. Thornhill has received the title of Certified Commercial Investment Member of the National Association of Realtors, the highest designation in the commercial real estate industry and an accomplishment fewer than 150 South Carolinians hold.

Mr. Thornhill has an active life in community and state affairs, serving on numerous civic boards and committees and as a dedicated member of his church, Grace Episcopal. Furthermore, the South Carolina community has recognized the leadership and contributions of Mr. Thornhill by giving him numerous awards and honors, including recognition as one of America's Outstanding Young Men (1964), the Clemson University Distinguished Alumni Award (1975), and the Joseph P. Riley Leadership Award (1997). Of particular distinction is his receipt of the Frances R. Edmunds Award for outstanding and lifelong efforts in preservation, given by the Historic Charleston Foundation. As this award is only given on special occasions to individuals who

exhibit exceptional leadership in preservation efforts, Mr. Thornhill's recognition in this area demonstrates his dedication to the state of South Carolina, her rich history, and her bright future.

I personally know Mr. Thornhill to be a man of honor and integrity, a great representative of our city, state, and country. Though his innumerable contributions to our state simply cannot be measured or detailed in a single letter, I have no doubt that Thomas Thornhill has established himself as a true friend to South Carolina and all of her people through his commitment, leadership, support, and outstanding character. I hope that you will choose to bestow the Order of the Palmetto on this truly remarkable civil servant.

Most sincerely yours,




John J. Tecklenburg  
Mayor, City of Charleston

JJT:mdh

April 12, 2017

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
Governor, State of South Carolina  
1100 Gervais Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor, 

I write to endorse your consideration of Thomas "Tommy" Edwin Thornhill for the Order of the Palmetto. I have known Tommy most of my life, and until a few years ago he was my neighbor and actually lived in a house on my grandparent's former property. Tommy attended my alma mater (Charleston High School) and served in the US Army. He graduated from Clemson (we can forgive him for that) and spent the bulk of his career in his family's business (Charleston Oil Company). Since 1993 Tommy has been President of Clement, Crawford and Thornhill, Inc. a well-respected Commercial Real Estate agency here in Charleston.

**Charleston**

Charlotte

Columbia

Greensboro

Greenville

Hilton Head

Myrtle Beach

Raleigh

Tommy's civic contributions over the course of his distinguished career are unparalleled. You were given a copy of his resume' so I will not re-hash them here; they speak for themselves. I will however speak to just one in the long list. It is an area where I have personal knowledge of his commitment to community and his ongoing contributions. As a Past President of Historic Charleston Foundation, I have had the opportunity to work with Tommy in that organization for over 17 years. Past Presidents, are no longer required to attend board meetings, yet Tommy attends almost every meeting, and has done so since the 1960's. Even though he can no longer vote, he continues to contribute and his counsel is sought and valued by the sitting board. His strength of commitment to everything he undertakes is simply amazing.

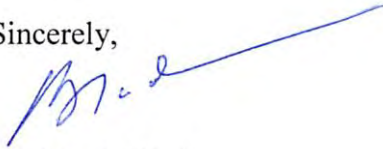
I can think of no one more deserving of the Order of the Palmetto than Tommy. As his career winds down, I can think of no better way to honor a life of service to his nation, his state, and his city. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information about this amazing man.

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
April 12, 2017  
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On a personal note, it was great seeing you at the Wildlife Expo, and I look forward to seeing you here in Charleston soon.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. J. Waring', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bradish J. Waring

BJW/shg

# Explore Charleston

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April 12, 2017

Mr. Henry D. McMaster  
Governor, State of South Carolina  
The State House  
1100 Gervais Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Henry,

It is my great honor and privilege to nominate Tommy Thornhill for South Carolina's highest honor, The Order of the Palmetto. Mr. Thornhill has been a personal mentor to me for over 30 years. When I first started in the tourism business, I often found it difficult to navigate the challenging conflicts of tourism promotion and historic preservation. Mr. Thornhill was an amazing guide. He has always understood that true success is a marathon, not a sprint. Mr. Thornhill helped us "be brave" in selling the destination in its truest sense. I often say that all of our history is not pretty, but it is our history. Mr. Thornhill maintains that understanding your past is the best way to ensure your future success. His motto is "Let's not repeat our mistakes."

Tommy Thornhill is what every South Carolinian should aspire to be! He was born in Charleston; married and raised his family here and all the while, has served his country, his state and his hometown unceasingly. Tommy was educated in Charleston public schools, graduated Clemson University and returned to Charleston to take his place of leadership in the growth and success of his hometown and state. He has been instrumental in building over six businesses locally and has sat on the boards of the most successful companies in the state. He is an author, a teacher and a counselor to all who wish to succeed. Tommy has been an active member of the service community, serving on over 35 local and state service organization's boards during his lifetime and many times serving as an officer. His honors are numerous both locally and nationally, including America's Outstanding Young Men (1964), Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award for Community Service (1970), Clemson University Distinguished Alumni Award (1975) and the Joseph P. Riley Leadership Award (1997).

In closing I want to share a little known fact that as a true Southern Gentleman yourself will make you smile ....there will always be a line in our Official Charleston Area Visitor Guide that states " Visitors are encouraged to help preserve the dignity of these sites by being appropriately attired while visiting them."

Many thanks for your consideration,



Helen T. Hill  
Chief Executive Officer

HTH/jnw

CHARLESTON AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

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## HISTORIC CHARLESTON FOUNDATION

2017 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 12, 2017

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Harold R. Pratt-Thomas Jr.  
Richard W. Salmons Jr.  
Anne F. Smith  
Thomas E. Thornhill  
Bradish J. Waring  
John H. Warren III  
J. Rutledge Young Jr.

Dear Governor McMaster,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff at the Historic Charleston Foundation, I am writing in support of Tommy Thornhill's nomination as an ideal candidate to receive "The Order of the Palmetto". His magnanimous support for his community has been noted and duly recognized for decades as evidenced by his widespread participation and stellar leadership throughout his business career and his outstanding leadership positions in the not-for-profit sector.

From the South Carolina Tricentennial to the United Way, from Clemson University to the Chamber of Commerce of the Greater Charleston Area and the South Carolina Chamber, and from the Kiwanis Club of Charleston to Historic Charleston Foundation, and many more entities, Tommy has served with distinction. His remarkable service to all continues to be stellar. His passion for excellence, his compassion for others and his humility and grace are hallmarks of his very being.

It is indeed an honor to support his candidacy, and I do so proudly.

Sincerely,

Katharine S. Robinson



Wilbur E. Johnson  
Managing Partner

Direct Dial: (843) 724-6659  
Direct Fax: (843) 579-1332  
E-mail: [wjohnson@ycrlaw.com](mailto:wjohnson@ycrlaw.com)

April 13, 2017

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
Governor, State of South Carolina  
1100 Gervais Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor McMaster:

I write this letter in support of the nomination of Thomas E. (Tommy) Thornhill for the award of the Order of the Palmetto. Tommy is a lifelong Charlestonian who has contributed in numerous ways to the well-being of his hometown, specifically, and to the State of South Carolina, in general.

Tommy has been, and continues to be, a guiding force in the real estate community as a member of the firm, Clement Crawford and Thornhill. In his position, Tommy has helped to shape development policies that are not only economically sound, but also demonstrate a sensitivity to the need for environmental stewardship and public green spaces.

Among Tommy's numerous civic commitments is his continuing affiliation with the Historic Charleston Foundation. Tommy is a Past Chair of the HCF Board of Trustees and he remains active in the organization. His leadership of the organization has been instrumental in the effort to preserve and sustain the history and architectural character of Charleston and the surrounding communities. As a result, he has helped to preserve the low country as a beloved destination point for travelers from across the country and around the world. Clearly, the intense interest in the low country rebounds to the benefit of the entire State of South Carolina.

Another dimension of Tommy's leadership is reflected in his status as Past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. In this role, Tommy helped to drive economic development initiatives that were and remain vital to the Charleston community. These efforts include support of the South Carolina State Ports Authority, well-recognized as an economic engine for the state.

Perhaps, most importantly, Tommy has and continues to serve as a mentor to many men and women who, themselves, have emerged as business and civic leaders. Prominent among these individuals is John Tecklenburg, the current Mayor of the City of Charleston. There are countless other individuals who have benefited from Tommy's wise guidance and counsel.

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
Governor, State of South Carolina  
April 13, 2017  
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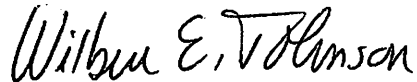
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My understanding is that the purpose of awarding the Order of the Palmetto is to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution to a particular city or community. In view of that criterion, Tommy Thornhill will be a particularly worthy recipient of the honor.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter of support.

Very truly yours,

YOUNG CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wilbur E. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wilbur E. Johnson  
Managing Partner

WEJ/kir

# STIFEL

April 5, 2017

Governor Henry McMaster

Your Excellency,

I would like to express my strongest conviction with regards to Thomas E. Thornhill's nomination for The Order of the Palmetto. I have known Tommy, personally, most of my life and he has been a great mentor to me. He and his wife Mardell were very good friends of my parents and they lived around the corner from us on Prices Alley. He always had pearls of wisdom for me and my friends as we were navigating through our formative years.

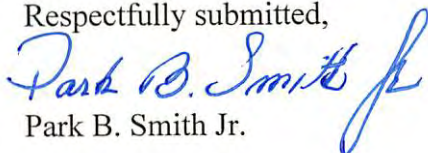
Tommy has always been heavily and successfully involved in anything that he truly believes in. His list of accomplishments is too long to list in this letter. However, passions cannot be ignored. First, as evidenced by his orange blood, he is a tireless supporter of Clemson University. Second, he has been a loyal Kiwanian for over 60 years. Third, a primary protector of his beloved city, he has been officially and unofficially the leader of The Historic Charleston Foundation. Tommy is a successful businessman in every good way. The first half of his career was running Charleston Oil with his brother Van Noy Thornhill. His second career is still a work in progress as one of the founding members of Clement, Crawford & Thornhill Real Estate Company.

Tommy is the epitome of the consummate gentleman. No matter what the situation, he treats all fairly and respectfully. Whether it is helping a stranger in need or performing his southern duties in the support of ladies, I know of no one who commands more respect and appreciation than Tommy.

On a lighter note, one item you might not know is that Tommy has a penchant for tie tacs. If you happen to ask him about a certain tie tac, he has a story to go with it. I will bet he has the largest collection known to man, at least in Charleston.

Your Excellency, in my humble opinion, Thomas E. Thornhill exemplifies the tangible and intangible qualifications required for The Order of the Palmetto. He has been an extraordinary leader to both our City and our State and is well deserving of such an honor during his lifetime.

Respectfully submitted,



Park B. Smith Jr.



April 19, 2017

The Honorable Henry McMaster  
State House  
1100 Gervais Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
RE: Order of the Palmetto Award

Dear Governor McMaster:

Please consider this letter my recommendation for Mr. Thomas Edwin Thornhill to receive the Order of the Palmetto.

I have had the honor and privilege to be a business partner of Tommy Thornhill's in Clement, Crawford and Thornhill, Inc. for over twenty-three years. Prior to that we worked together for seven years at the Max L. Hill Company.

Mr. Thornhill is the definition of a southern gentleman. He embodies honor, integrity, manners and a gentle demeanor for which the title was designed. I hope that you will find him worthy of our state's highest civilian honor.

As a boy growing up in Charleston I knew Mr. Thornhill as the man who built joggling boards and who had college students paint the fire hydrants to look like firemen. I recall him always taking the time to speak to me when we met. He was a man whom everyone respected.

Fast forward twenty year to 1987 when I took over as Vice President of the Max L. Hill Company and became manager of the Commercial Division. I was thirty and this man was twenty-nine years my senior. Over the next thirty plus or minus years I have come to know him as friend, partner, mentor, and patriot.

After graduating from Charleston High School Mr. Thornhill somehow, at the age of 16, enlisted in the United States Army Transport sector where he served until being honorably discharged in 1945. He went on to Clemson University, graduating in 1948. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1974 after 26 years in the United States Army Ready Reserve.

After Clemson, Mr. Thornhill returned to Charleston to begin his tireless service to his community and State. He married his wonderful wife, Mardelle in 1953, and raised two daughters, Anne and Ama, while having a successful business career in the oil industry and later

**Clement, Crawford & Thornhill, Inc**  
1601 Oceanic Street  
Charleston, SC 29405

tel 843 735 5299  
fax 843 577 0153

[rclement@cctre.com](mailto:rclement@cctre.com)  
[www.cctre.com](http://www.cctre.com)



real estate (sadly, Mrs. Thornhill died a few years ago and Tommy lost the love of his life and best friend). He still managed to find the time to give so much of himself to this State and community.

Mr. Thornhill has so many notable works. He wrote and published, *Flags Over Carolina*. He was a partner in the renovation of The Provost under the old Exchange Building at Broad and East Bay Streets. He served as a Trustee for the Historic Charleston foundation from 1962-1979 and 1981-1990, was Treasurer from 1967-1971, 1972-1974 and Past President Trustee from 1990 to present. He has been a board member of Historic Charleston Reproductions from 1973 to present and Chairman from 1973 until 1980.

Mr. Thornhill's involvement in local and State affairs include numerous board and committees. He has been Chairman or President of the Charleston Trident Chamber of Commerce, Charleston County Tricentennial Committee, Charleston Neighborhood Association, Charlestowne Landing Foundation, South Carolina Oil Fuel Institute, Ashley Hall School (Foundation), Clemson Alumni Association (National President), Kiwanis Club of Charleston, and Liquified Petroleum Gas Association. He has been awarded the Clemson University Distinguished Alumni Award (1974), the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award for community service (1970), and the Joseph P. Riley Leadership Award (1997). Of particular note, he is a recipient of the Historic Charleston Foundation's, Frances R. Edmunds Award, for outstanding and lifelong efforts in preservation.

I cannot recommend anyone more highly to you than Mr. Thomas E. Thornhill. His character and service are unmatched. I hope that you will look favorably upon my humble recommendation.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Clement, III