

Edward G. Thomas Biography

A native of Bowling Green, Kentucky, Dr. Edward G. Thomas joined the James J. Nance College of Business Administration at Cleveland State University in 1973, after earning his doctorate in vocational education at the University of Kentucky. He taught primarily in the areas of business communication and marketing and is the author or co-author of more than 100 journal articles, book chapters, and research reports. In his career at CSU, he served as a department chair, assistant dean, associate dean, and interim dean of the college. In 2008, Dr. Thomas retired from the Nance College of Business (now the Monte Ahuja College of Business) after 35 years of service. He was awarded the title of professor of marketing emeritus by the CSU Board of Trustees.

Dr. Thomas has been a member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland since October of 1990, and he has served as the chair of several committee and subcommittees. He joined the club's Executive Committee in 1997 as treasurer, then served as vice president, president-elect, and finally president in 2000-2001. For several years, he was the coordinator of the Club's Automotive Recognition Day Program, and he still is involved as the coordinator of the Business Student Awards of Excellence Program and the Business Leadership Awards Program. All of these programs are joint ventures between the College of Business and the Rotary Club of Cleveland.

To help the Rotary Club of Cleveland celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2011, Dr. Thomas wrote a history of the club incorporating his original research and some materials left by the late Leon H. Swartout, the club's long-time executive director. The 270-page book, entitled *Reflections on a Century of Service: The History of the Rotary Club of Cleveland, 1911-2011*, was published in 2012. In March of 2016, Dr. Thomas completed a 500-page history of Rotary District 6630, which is entitled *The History of Rotary District 6630: The "Home" of Arch C. Klumph*.

Edward G. Thomas is a Paul Harris Fellow, has twice won the Rotary Club of Cleveland's Rotarian-of-the-Year Award, and received the Club's first Lifetime Humanitarian Award in 2007. He lives in Brunswick with his wife, Dr. Cathy A. Thomas, an art historian.