

# Tom Burchers

Inducted into the *Hall of Fame* in 1998

Tom Burchers is a Washington graduate, Class of '68. While at Washington, Tom was a three-year member of the Warrior band and was also a member of the Spanish Club. He started studying the saxophone in third grade with Harvey Von Wald and Roland Moehlmann. He also studied saxophone, clarinet, oboe, and bassoon with Don Olson and the late Howard Ellson, Washington band director and Performing Arts Hall of Fame member. Tom went on to Coe College, earning his Bachelor of Music Education, in 1972.

Tom began his teaching career in the Algona area parochial schools for three years before accepting the position of band director at Tripoli schools, where he has taught for many years. He currently teaches middle and high school lessons, directs the high school band, and is the district Technology Coordinator. Their concert band has earned seven Division I ratings at the Iowa High School Music Association Large Group Contest in the last few years.

Tom is married to Carla Kane Burchers, a 1966 graduate of Washington and a 1972 graduate of Coe. She is an outstanding flute player, who studied with many of the same teachers as Tom and is currently the Elementary/Middle School Band Director in Tripoli and Wapsie Valley.

Tom is in his fifth two-year term as Secretary of the Iowa Bandmasters Association, a thousand member group which promotes all types of school bands and assists band directors statewide.

