

Thomas James Gray—Olympic athlete

Bloomington high school class of 1964

World Champion speed skater

Tom Gray grew up in Bloomington with his parents, Ernest and Joyce Gray and two brothers, Terry, and Randy. After graduating from Bloomington high school, Tom attended the University of Minnesota.

Tom was a talented speed skater. His best event was the 500-meter sprint. He competed for the United States in the 1964 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, where he placed 14th, and in the 1968 Winter Olympics in Grenoble, France, where he placed 21st.

He also skated at the 1966 and 1967 World Championships where he won gold in the 500m distance in 1966, and took silver in the same event in 1967. His personal best times were 39.5 seconds for 500 meters and 2:13.1 for the 1,500 meters in 1964, 1:26.0 for the 1,000 meters in 1968, and 9:09.0 for 5,000 meters and 19:23.0 for 10,000 meters in 1972.

After his speed skating career, he served in Vietnam as a Sergeant in the US Air Force. He died in 2019 in Aitkin, MN and was laid to rest at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery.

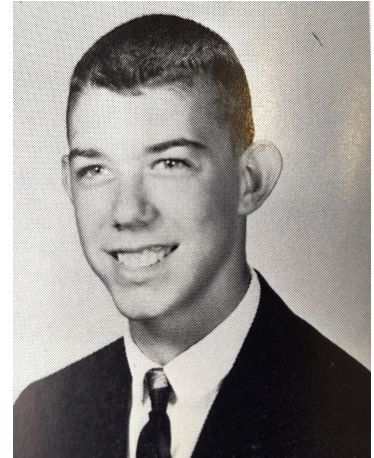


Photo: Bloomington HS yearbook 1964