

**The Thomas C. Urso Memorial Foundation** was created to honor the memory of local business and family man, Thomas Urso. Tom was diagnosed with cancer in 2001 and lost his battle on March 31, 2004. With the help of his family and friends, they created the Memorial Foundation in conjunction



with a golf outing to celebrate Tom's memory and to benefit Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation. Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation is a national organization dedicated to eliminating pediatric cancer and to providing hope and support to those who are touched by it. Founded in late 1992 by Kathleen A. Casey, the foundation is named in memory of her eight-year-old son, Barrett "Bear" Krupa, who died after a courageous five and a half year battle with Wilms Tumor, a pediatric cancer. Their mission is carried out through two unique areas which include the Bear Hugs Program and the Bear Discoveries Program. Over the past twelve years, the Thomas C. Urso Memorial Foundation has donated over \$200,000 and were the recipients of Bear Necessities, William J. Casey Hope Award.

In addition to helping Bear Necessities, the Thomas C Urso Memorial Foundation benefits Saint Xavier University. Nick and Tony transferred into St. Xavier after spending their freshman years playing football for Western Michigan University and Olivet Nazarene University. Tom was always willing to do whatever he could to help the football program and our family has always wanted to do something special in our dad's memory to benefit St. Xavier. That is when we came up with the idea to start a scholarship. The Saint Xavier University's Thomas C. Urso Memorial Scholarship was then created by the Urso Family and Tom's friend and business partner Shadow Mirkhaef. The \$1,000 scholarship is awarded for four years to a Saint Xavier University Football player and a female student athlete based on grades, community service, leadership and lastly athletic ability. For more information on our scholarship winners, go to [www.thomascursomemorialfoundation.org](http://www.thomascursomemorialfoundation.org) .



The Memorial Foundation also raises money to improve the athletic facilities at St. Xavier University for both men's and women's athletic teams. In 2013, with the support of the Urso family, Saint Xavier began to renovate their outdoor sports complex. In September of 2014 as part of the Homecoming celebration, the complex was renamed the Urso Outdoor Sports Complex.

*Thomas C. Urso*

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



*Benefiting:*

*Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation,*

*The Thomas C. Urso Memorial Scholarships &*

*Saint Xavier University Athletic Facilities*