

MARK THORNDYKE

'85 (FINANCE)

Mark Thorndyke is a Certified Financial Planner and a Certified Investment Management Analyst who has been with Merrill Lynch since 1986. He is currently a senior financial advisor and first vice president of investments and one of the top producers at the Global Wealth Management Chicago Metro office, with over \$328 million in assets under management. Thorndyke has been recognized by Merrill Lynch every year since 1997 for reaching award club levels.

In 2008 he was honored with their prestigious Circle of Champions Club. In the February 7, 2009 edition of *Barron's Magazine*, Thorndyke was named one of the top 1000 advisors in America, ranking 21st in Illinois on the magazine's state-by-state top advisors list.



Being aware of an individual's impact on his community, Thorndyke supports many charitable and non-profit organizations. He is especially fond of the student run Education Investment Fund (EIF) at Illinois State University. As a senior, Thorndyke was selected as one of the managers of the fund, which he cites as his motivation for pursuing a career in investment management. He now shares his expertise with today's EIF participants.

For a number of years Thorndyke has been investing in farmland in Central Illinois. He currently manages over 750 acres of a successful farming operation growing corn and soy beans. With the environment in mind, he participates in the Conservation Reserve Program by setting aside a portion of his farmland for land preservation and environmental enhancements.

Thorndyke has served on the Lake Barrington Countryside Park District Board for the past five years. He is the president of the Sigma Tau Gamma-Gamma Psi Alumni Association of Illinois State University. He also coaches his four children's soccer, softball, and basketball teams.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

Celebrating the successes of our outstanding College of Business graduates and supporters is one of the most rewarding things we do at Illinois State University. Their commitment to excellence not only reflects their professional dedication and service to others, but their achievements also add value to our programs and the Illinois State brand for all of our graduates. It is with great pleasure that we honor these individuals.