

Mike was born and raised in Ottawa. He graduated from Ottawa High School in 1974, and KState in 1978 with a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics. Later, he married his high school sweetheart, Marilee Thornburg, and they moved to central Kansas where Mike began his career in banking. Mike and Marilee, and their 3 children, resettled in Ottawa in 1995. All three of the Skidmore children also graduated from O.H.S.

Mike was first elected to the City Commission in 2013, and has served three terms as mayor. He was a member of the Franklin County Leadership Class of 1995. He is past Chairman of both the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce, and Franklin County Development Council. He has served on the Ottawa University Chancellor's Council for over a decade. Mike also served on the Goppert State Service Bank board for over 20 years. He retired after 44 years in banking at the end of 2022.

Currently, in addition to being a grandpa, he enjoys substitute teaching in the Ottawa schools and serving as President of Agape Interfaith Ministries of India, which operates an orphanage, hospital, school, and supports pastors in India. Mike and Marilee are long time members of Ottawa Bible Church.