

Alumnus Spotlight Thomas Kendrick Information Technology, Class of 2021

Thomas Kendrick, Class of 2021, returned to college for his sons. This New Orleans native studied Business Administration at Southern University in New Orleans, but was unable to finish his degree. He worked in the hospitality industry for 25 years before coming to Northshore Technical Community College.

In the hospitality industry, Thomas was working a lot of nights, weekends and holidays. When his hotel management position was eliminated, he went to Tri-Parish Works where it was suggested that he enroll at NTCC. Thomas was ready for a career that would allow him to spend more time with his young sons. "I live my life for them," he said. He decided to enter NTCC's Information Systems Technology Program in order to increase his knowledge of advancements in business technology.

Thomas admits he was skeptical at first because the Lacombe Campus was so new and not many programs were being offered there yet. His advisor, Sandy Yaeger (now Dean of the Hammond Area Campus), suggested IT and he was one of the first students to enroll in the program at Lacombe in 2019. Thomas says, "NTCC gave me a better chance at life."

Not long after graduation, Thomas started his new career as a manager of warehouse operations for Paradies Lagardere, a leading North American travel retailer. His day starts early – 5:00 AM – but he's off at 3:00 PM and ready to spend time with his sons. Their favorite activities include going to the beach, trampoline parks and arcades, and attending basketball and football games.



"My sons were with me at graduation. It was good for them to see that if you work hard, you can achieve your goals."

Thomas Kendrick, Jr.
Class of 2021