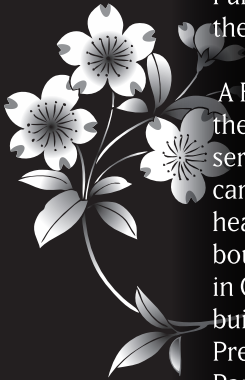


Ambassador J. Thomas Schieffer

The Honorable J. Thomas Schieffer, a Fort Worth native, served as the 27th United States Ambassador to Japan from 2005 to 2009. As Ambassador, he played a key role in the negotiations that resulted in the most far-reaching revision to the U.S.-Japan alliance since the original agreement was signed in 1960. Widely respected for his managerial and diplomatic skills, he played an integral role in the Six Party Talks and in five additional summits, including the G-8 Summit in Hokkaido.



A Fort Worth native, Tom Schieffer was elected to the Texas House of Representatives at age 25 and served three terms before pursuing a successful legal career. In 1989, he joined an investment group headed by George W. Bush and Rusty Rose that bought the Texas Rangers baseball team. As Partner in Charge of Ballpark Development, he oversaw the building of The Ballpark in Arlington. He became President of the team in 1990 and Managing General Partner in 1994.

Ambassador Schieffer has been highly decorated for his diplomatic service both as Ambassador to Japan and, previously, as Ambassador to Australia. In 2006, the Government of Australia awarded him The Order of Australia, its highest award to a foreigner. In 2009, Schieffer received the Distinguished Public Service Medal from the U.S. Secretary of Defense, the highest civilian award the Department of Defense can bestow.