Tommy Sheppard, ’91

Tommy Sheppard’s hometown roots lead back to Albuquerque.

Sheppard’s favorite memory of NMSU starts in 1990. It was the year in Aggie Athletics, for a young NM State fan and student, he will never forget – the year the NM State Men’s Basketball team defeated UNLV at home in the Pan American Center. It is the same UNLV team that went on to win the national championship later that year.

His love for sports guided him in life. He played football for three seasons at NMSU and worked in the athletic department as a student assistant to the sports information director for two years.

After graduating from NMSU in 1991 with a bachelor’s degree in community health, Sheppard started a career working at UNLV as the sports information director until 1994 when he was hired by the Denver Nuggets of the National Basketball Association.

Some 25 years later, he is now the senior vice president of basketball operations for the NBA’s Washington Wizards in the nation’s capital. In this role, he manages salary caps, negotiations, draft preparation and talent evaluation of collegiate athletes and professionals, both domestically and abroad.

Despite his successful career, Sheppard says his proudest moment is reaching 25 years of marriage with his wife Rosie and raising seven children – Bailey, Rheba, Tommy, Abby, Emma, Tessa and Luke.