Dennis Sagely’s close friends – a group that seems to include a majority of the residents in Broken Arrow and eastern Oklahoma – describe him as "a wonderfully honest, open, humble man with a passion for helping others."

To that description can now be added the distinction of being a Great Graduate representing the Broken Arrow High School class of 1992.

Sagely always had his sights set on being an attorney and the best at everything he undertook. That was obvious in the classroom where he ranked in the top one percent in his graduating class and in competitive athletics where he was a four-year letterman in wrestling and played football and baseball. His senior year, his classmates elected him Student Council President.

Athletics and academics led Sagely to become an Ivy Leaguer. At Cornell University, he wrestled, played lightweight football and was a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity. His senior year, he was inducted into the Sphinx Head Senior Honor Society, an organization created to recognize a few select individuals who displayed outstanding strength of character along with a dedication to leadership and service. Induction is one of the highest non-scholastic honors within reach of Cornell undergraduate students.

After earning his degree in 1996, Sagely returned to Oklahoma to attend the University of Oklahoma College of Law. There, he served on the American Indian Law Review and participated in intramural sports. In 1997, he married his BAHS classmate and sweetheart, Andrea Wiley.

After receiving his law degree in 1999, the Sagelys returned to Broken Arrow where she began teaching in the Broken Arrow Public School system and he spent four years getting his feet wet in family law and litigation before opening his own practice in 2003. It didn’t take him long to expand his volunteer commitments from helping his wife with school activities to becoming a charter member of the Broken Arrow Noon Lion’s Club and a member of the board of directors of A New Leaf.

In 2006, the year his twin daughters were born, he added the Broken Arrow Relay for Life Committee to his repertoire. In addition, he serves as district vice president for the Oklahoma Municipal Judges Association and is an active member of First United Methodist Church.

In 2005, the City of Broken Arrow and City of Coweta picked one of the busiest guys in town to serve as their alternate municipal judge. Six years later, Sagely took over as Presiding Municipal Judge in Coweta, maintained his Broken Arrow duties and added responsibility as alternate municipal judge for the City of Bixby.

Serving with distinction in all three roles while maintaining his own private practice earned him recognition as Best Attorney of 2012 by readers of the Broken Arrow Ledger.

Despite a demanding schedule, friends say they would be shocked not to find this Great Graduate helping his kids sell sno-cones for the Lion’s Club at Tuesdays in the Park; setting up tents and chairs for Relay for Life; or squeezing in a few rounds of golf or a game of softball between engagements.

That’s the kind of commitment that makes this Tiger roar.