



## George Kruse

George Kruse is a current at-large County Commissioner in Manatee County, having been elected in 2020. He has called the area home since the mid-1980s and Manatee County home since 2008. A graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School (Sarasota) in 1993, George went on to receive degrees in both Management and Finance from the University of Florida and subsequently received his MBA in real estate finance from Columbia Business School in 2003. George has made a lifelong career in commercial real estate finance.

George and his family have been deeply involved with the community since planting their roots here. George currently sits as a Board member with the Florida Association of Counties, the SeaPort Manatee Port Authority, Manatee County Affordable Housing Advisory Board, CareerSource Suncoast, Peace River Water Authority and the Gulf Consortium. He has taken numerous roles throughout the community including being a Board member of Manatee Tiger Bay and Leadership Manatee Alumni Association. He is active with the Bradenton Kiwanis, the Chamber of Commerce, and various community/educational activities throughout the year. George and his wife, Jess, have two teenage children: Alexander, who's a Senior at Parrish Community HS and plays travel hockey and Olivia, who's a Sophomore at Lakewood Ranch HS and plays travel soccer.

George will continue to bring a common-sense conservative voice to our Board of County Commissioners. He will focus on a small government, limited tax agenda that will protect both the personal rights and the personal capital of the citizens of Manatee County. George will actually focus on smart and inclusive growth in Manatee County, not just use these terms as soundbites. Rather than allowing unimpeded sprawl east of the FDAB, we need to develop incentives to encourage future growth where it is most sustainable. He will place a focus on in-fill redevelopment and areas in proximity to existing infrastructure, services and employment bases to minimize both environmental impact and traffic congestion. Most importantly, George will ensure future growth pays for itself.

George believes in open dialogue, fair representation and opportunity for all through inclusive policies. He wants residents to have a voice in their government. He pledges to continue focusing on the local issues that affect your day-to-day lives and the positives of my proposed policies.