

ALUMNI OF THE MONTH

Name: Michael Johnson

Year of Graduation: 1994

What have you done since graduating from Port Allegany High School?

After graduation, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.



I stayed in Port Allegany after college and took my first job as a manufacturing engineer at Zippo where I worked for a little over 7 years.

For the last 16 years I have worked at Siemens Energy (formerly Dresser-Rand) in Olean and currently I am the manager of maintenance and manufacturing engineering.

In 2008 I married Katie Lincoln and we have two amazing children, Mallory, 12, and Patrick, 10. Katie is a math teacher at PAHS.

Where do you currently live?

Port Allegany

Who was your favorite teacher in high school? Why were they your favorite?

There are really three teachers who had the greatest impact on me - Mr. Owen, Mr. Myers, and Mr. McCormick.

Mr. Owen literally changed my life. Before his class I was just an average math student and did not particularly care for the subject, but he made math fun and interesting for me. So much so, that I chose engineering for my college studies and eventually my career. Were it not for Mr. Owen, I likely wouldn't have the career that I enjoy today.

I found great enjoyment in chorus, Show Choir, and drama, and much of that was because of Mr. Myers. His passion and dedication to music and his students was inspiring.

Mr. McCormick always made class fun, which certainly helped me retain his lessons. I always enjoyed when he would go “off script” to show us a chemistry demonstration that was probably a little more dangerous (but definitely more exciting) than what was in the book!

What is your fondest memory of Port Allegany High School?

Most of my good memories are from drama productions, or Show Choir rehearsals and performances, but I also look back fondly at my time in student council and on the Tiger Lily staff.