

ALUMNI OF THE MONTH

Name: Willie Bova

Year of Graduation: 2006

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

After high school, I attended Thiel College and graduated in 2010 with a bachelor of arts in political science. Shortly after graduating from Thiel, I was hired as an adult probation officer for McKean County. In 2013, I got hired at the Federal Correctional Institute-McKean as a correctional officer and worked there for approximately 18 months. After I completed my masters in criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, I accepted a position as a United States Probation Officer in Cookeville, Tennessee. In June of 2016, I transferred to Buffalo, New York where I currently still work as a United States Probation Officer.

Shortly after transferring to Buffalo, I started dating my now fiancée Katrina Goodrich (Class of 2001). One of my high school friends, Glenn Shidner, asked, "How did you pull that off?" Glenn, I still don't know the answer to that question.

In 2018, I joined the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves as a Third Class Petty Officer. My rate is a Maritime Enforcement Specialist in Buffalo. Also in 2018, our son Slate William Bova was born which to this date, has been the best thing that's happened in my life. "

Where do you currently live?

West Seneca, New York

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

In high school, I was involved in sports the entire school year. Therefore, I tended to gravitate towards teachers who were coaches. A particular teacher who was a positive influence on me, and used the field as an extension of the classroom, was Mr. Bodamer.

I appreciated the rapport we established as his lessons continue to influence my daily life.

What is your fondest memory of Port Allegany High School?

The cliché answer; there are too many to choose from. Participating in sports built friendships that will last a lifetime. Witnessing Brian Mickle and Jake Rohrer camp out by the weight room doors at 5:30 a.m. after being late to morning lifts was a classic.



