

DUANE MEYER

Duane Meyer: Designing to Save Lives

Graduate: Class of 1999 Occupation: Mechanical Engineer
By Shelby Stallman, Spring of 2011

Duane Meyer, a 2004 graduate of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology located in Terre Haute, Indiana, obtained a bachelor's degree in science for mechanical engineering. Additionally, he received a master's degree in business administration at University of Wisconsin Whitewater in 2010.

At Rose- Hulman, Duane played varsity soccer all four years. While there, he did not expect to do too well academically. “. . . I applied myself as much as possible and graduated with the highest honors (Summa Cum Laude)”.

He currently works for Boston Scientific Corporation located in Arden Hill, Minnesota. Boston Scientific Corporation manufactures and sells pacemakers, defibrillators, and heart failure devices. All of these products help save patients lives from cardiovascular diseases. Duane, a process development engineering manager, now works on building a \$14 million assembly line. “It's kind of like being a kid in a candy store,” Duane Says. On a typical day, he designs, modifies, troubleshoots, and builds automated pieces of equipment. Designed to manufacture leads connected to pacemakers, these pieces of equipment make a difference in saving a person's life. Soon he will validate this equipment because the outcome could save or harm a person's life. “Validating this equipment ensures that no matter how much changes day-to-day, the outcome from the process is going to be good”.

Duane graduated from high school in 1999. Some of Duane's highlights and greatest achievements from high school include receiving the faculty scholarship upon graduating, being nominated as the team captain for the soccer team, participating as one of the two people to take Mr. Prusz's advanced physics class, going tee-peeing with the soccer team, and hosting an exchange student, Jose, from Brazil. Mr. Prusz, Duane's most influential teacher, “. . . the classes he taught me (Physics, Algebra, Calculus) prepared me very well for what I would take in college”. Duane chose Mrs. Schnellenberger's keyboard/computer class, as his most valuable class in high school.

Between his junior and senior year in high school, Duane had a life-changing and memorable experience. He traveled to Europe strictly by himself. While there, he visited a few past exchange students. “Having to speak a different language and navigating through someone else's country really helped me grow up and mature,” he says.

Since his graduation twelve years ago, Duane has led a rich life. For example, in 2005 Duane and Abby Potter married, and in September 2010, they welcomed their first child, Olivia Rose. Throughout the years Duane and Abby have had the opportunity to travel. They have traveled to Aruba, Jamaica, Mexico, St. Martin, St. Thomas, Curacao, Belize, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands, France, and Iceland, “. . . most of the travel was for personal vacations. Only a small portion was work related”.

Duane has many hobbies, such as playing soccer and rugby. Running and swimming, his most enjoyable exercising routines, also add to his hobby list. Recently, he ran two marathons and plans to run another one soon. Since Minnesota gets quite cold in the winter months, he loves going ice fishing. Although Duane has accomplished many of his goals throughout his life, he plans to accomplish many more.