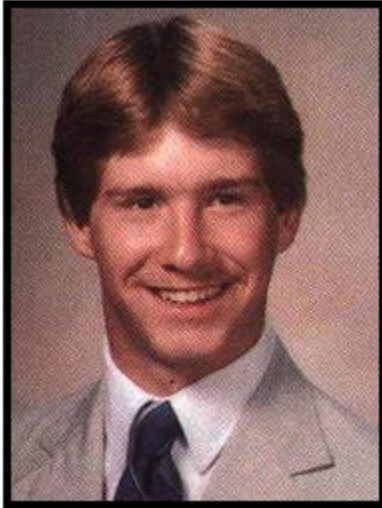


Wayne Adams

September 2014 Alumni of the Month



Wayne Adams graduated in 1984. Following graduation he attended the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and acquired a biology (pre-med) degree, followed by a bachelor of science degree in secondary science education in hopes of teaching at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School. After obtaining his teaching certification, he was hired by Conemaugh Township Area School District to fill in as a long-term substitute for half of a school year in nineteen ninety one, but he could not secure a permanent position in the district at the time.

In the fall of 1991, he became an employee of the Claysburg-Kimmel School District where he taught junior and senior high science classes and coached wrestling, softball, and baseball for seven years, all the while living in Conemaugh Township. In the summer of 1999 he was hired by the Conemaugh Township Area School District and was able to return to the "The Reservation" and fulfill his goal of working where he had already spent much of his life time.

In 1997 Mr. Adams married a Conemaugh Township alumnus, Barbara Stevanus, and purchased his first home in Davidsville. He coached wrestling for a few years, until the birth of his son, Connor, in 2002.

Mr. Adams feels he has been blessed to be able to work in a field he enjoys, in an area he loves, with coworkers whom he respects, in a district of which he is proud.

Wayne Adams is currently living in Davidsville, Pennsylvania. He says his family members are proud to be products of the Conemaugh Township School District, and as a part of that system, he hopes to help create productive, successful, and happy individuals from the students who pass through his classroom.

Mr. Debiase and Mr. Horne were his favorite teachers in high school. They are his favorites because he says both of these teachers set high standards for their students and made no excuses for failure. They

seemed to impart their desire for success and their love of education into their students and thus made those students better people. They set firm rules and high expectations and shared in the success of the students whom they taught.

Mr. Adams has many, many fond memories, some of which he imagines have become contorted over time. He says one that sticks out most vividly, this time of year, involves the 1983-1984 homecoming bonfire. He says a group of great friends spent all day building the bonfire, as so many groups had done before. Then, in just a few brief seconds on a humid, muggy night, as flame met accelerant, they collectively changed forever how Conemaugh Township Area School District conducts the lighting of the bonfire. Since that evening, it has been standard practice not to allow students to utilize gasoline to get the fire going. He says, "That was one heck of a bonfire!