

SON OF MARSHALL

Jason Happe is coming full circle

“Dr. Guyer was the only one who believed in me.” Those words were repeated several times while Jason Happe, President of Davenergy Solutions and former HELP Program student, expressed his fondness of his time at Marshall University. “Dr. Guyer was great. A bulldog. A mama bear. You would walk by her office and she’d pull you in to chat for 15 minutes. She always let us know she cared about us.” Jason began Marshall in 1992 and said he attempted his first semester without the HELP Program. “I made a 1.1 GPA my first semester freshman year. From then on, I was with HELP.” Jason went on to make the Dean’s list nine semesters in a row, attributing his success to his tutors, but there was clearly a lot of perseverance and determination on



Jason’s part, as well. “I practically lived in the HELP Program from 8:00 am to close. I think I may have even had a key.”

Jason was also one of the first students to be commissioned through the ROTC at Marshall alongside fellow HELP student and fraternity brother, Christopher Petty.

Army Capt. Christopher P. Petty died January 5, 2006 during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was only 33. “He was a good guy. He even met his wife at the HELP Program,” Jason fondly explained. Jason served from 1992 to 2006 earning the rank of CPT (P) before diving into project management within the engineering field.

From honoring his fallen friend, to giving future engineers incredible opportunities, it’s clear Jason Happe is a son of Marshall who wants to give back. His company, Davenergy Solutions, offers internships each year to engineering students out of universities like San Diego University and NC State, but he hopes to create a pipeline with his alma mater. “We will teach your engineers. Six of our interns have become full-time employees.” Davenergy has eight locations and is headquartered out of San Diego. Jason sticks close to the Raleigh, NC location where he resides. Not only does Jason want to extend opportunities to Marshall engineers, but he also hopes to engage directly with HELP students. “I haven’t been back to Huntington in forever, but I’d love to come talk to the students.” We have a feeling he’ll be invited “home” very soon.



PICTURED LEFT: ARMY CPT CHRISTOPHER PETTY, RIGHT JASON HAPPE