



Tymm Hoffman

Class of 1992 (McEachern High School, GA)

Humanitarian / Web Development /
Marketing

Tymm Hoffman did not graduate from Greenville High School but attended both elementary and junior high in the district. Moving to Marietta, Georgia, Tymm attended and graduated from McEachern High School in the spring of 1992. However, in 1992 when the senior journalism class at GHS published the senior accolades, his former classmates named him, "class leader", a testimony to how well liked he was.

While in his senior year, he actively pursued an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy and having received appointments to the other service academies, he decided not to accept them. The tragic death of his Greenville High School friend, Tye Bothan, was a significant blow to him and focusing on college was very difficult. So for the years after high school, he ended up attending multiple colleges in Georgia to include: Georgia Tech, Southern Polytechnic Institute, Augusta College and Georgia State University. While at these schools Tymm studied everything from computer science to film. Finally he taught himself HTML code and started to work for an internet service provider in Atlanta. For the next several years, he worked in web marketing and digital production with his friend from Greenville, Tony Reames, who had started a dot com company, Media 1st.

Then on a whim, in 2009, Tymm submitted a series of essays to apply for a full scholarship to the University of Phoenix and ended up winning that full scholarship. In July 2016, he graduated with a degree in Web Development and Web Marketing. Tymm now works for a very large non-profit that exists to "release children from poverty in Jesus' name." His organization works in twenty-eight countries providing "resources through local churches to alleviate the strain, pressures and burden that poverty creates."

It is very appropriate that Tymm has chosen this line of work because it fits perfectly with the person he is. Community service is a large part of Tymm Hoffman. He worked in Atlanta with Point of Light, a non-profit dedicated to serving and helping people in the community who struggle with many kinds of problems. In addition, one of the most important issues that Tymm has embraced is individual rights, especially how it affects students in schools. He is a regular attendee and speaker at school board meetings in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where his children attend school. Tymm has fought for fairness for people who cannot fight for themselves and does it with a passion.

Another aspect of his selfless giving is the non-profit Brighton Their World that he and his wife, Laura, started in 2011. This organization came as a result of the death of their first adopted son, Brighton, who died in an orphanage in Ethiopia before they could bring him home. Out of this tragedy, Tymm and Laura dedicated themselves to supplying food and supplies for several orphanages in Addis Ababa. Through their relationship with people in Ethiopia, eight years later they built a school in Addis Ababa

that has grown to nine hundred students. These children receive an excellent education, clean water for their families, two meals a day and uniforms.

Brighton Their World School has won many accolades:

- Ranked second in all schools both private and public in Addis Ababa
- 100% pass rate for all students on the 6th grade national exams given by the government.
- Recognized as being "a role model school" for cleanliness and attractive environment.

In his spare time, Tymmm works as a YMCA trainer and group fitness instructor. He is also a producer on the movie SpookT and will also produce the next film, Mr. X. Tymmm has worked on many music videos and short films and is a talented writer and graphic designer. He states, "I have had the opportunity to work with a lot of great people - one of them being Tony Reames. I think it is rare for two guys who went to preschool together to stay in touch for some 40+ years and not only stay in touch but to collaborate and work together on fun, cool, excellent projects".

As far as who made an impact on Tymmm while he did attend Greenville Schools, he says, "While my tenure at GHS was shorter than most - I still had plenty of memories of teachers who made lasting impacts on me. I would argue that all of my teachers left a mark on me that is woven into the fabric of who I am. Mr. Sterns is one I remember. He taught me to write poetry and made me recite in front of the class. This stuck with me and to this day, I still write poetry and have been fascinated with words and how we use them. I credit that ALL to him. Mr. Fagley is another who truly sticks out to me. His library science class is a vivid memory of mine. He was also on my paper route and he was just a great leader to have around."

Advice to his younger self:

"Oh boy... 16 year old me? I'd probably say "It's gonna work out, bro." But seriously... I think because I went such a non-traditional route through life after high school - I found myself working overtime a lot to try and PROVE myself. Prove I was good enough. Prove I could do things. I felt "less than" often since I didn't have that early college degree... and if I could go back and grab that stubborn, bullheaded kid by the shoulders I think I would tell him:

"Chase failures. Don't be afraid to fail. Don't avoid them. You will have all kinds of successes but none will come without the failures that grow you... so embrace them..."

And also - I'd say "Dream big... but guess what? Your life will probably look NOTHING like what you expect... and that is OKAY!"

Tymmm and his wife Laura and their three children, all born in Ethiopia, live in Colorado Springs, Colorado.