## Roger Byrum ‘88

It is obvious that Roger’s success began at Caston. His senior classmates had high aspirations for Roger when they voted him most likely to succeed, as well as most studious on their senior survey. Roger didn’t spend all of his time with his nose in a book though, as he was a three-sport athlete participating in football, wresting and baseball all four years of high school. Roger was also a member of the National Honor Society.

Upon graduation, Roger headed to Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology where he earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering. Upon college graduation, Roger settled in the Twelve Mile area and went to work for Myers Spring where he has spent the past twenty-five years pursuing his career as an engineer. He currently holds the position of Senior Informatics and Automation Engineer.

Roger has served his home school community through his love for learning and engineering background by starting a VEX Robotics program during the 2016-17 school year. The program, under his leadership and the support of Myers Spring, has been highly successful with Caston’s elementary teams advancing to the World’s Competition the first year they competed. Many students have developed a love for robotics and improved their math and problem-solving skills as a result of their participation in this program. Roger has also served his community as a coach for youth leagues through the Upwards Christian youth programs.

Roger and his wife, Karen, reside in the Twelve Mile area within Caston School Corporation. They have three children who attend Caston, Edison (6th Grade), Elizabeth (10th Grade), and Evelynn (12th Grade).

## Robert J. Redweik, Jr. ‘76

Robert was active in many extracurricular activities at school, church, and in the community. Bob earned his God and Country Award and the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts and was a 10-year 4-H member. He was a National Honor Society member and graduated from Caston as Valedictorian.

Seeking to be a pilot and a career in the military, Bob was nominated and attended the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO from 1976 to 1979 where he earned his Parachuting Wings, learned to fly gliders, and earned numerous military and academic honors. However, a change in plans led to his voluntary transfer to Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN for his senior year where he completed his engineering course work and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering with a major in environmental engineering in 1980. In 1985 while working at Shell Oil Company, Bob also earned a Masters of Business Administration, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA.

Bob’s first “paying” job was as an engineer with the City of Fort Wayne, IN Engineering Department during 1980-81. Although an incredible learning experience, the advent of new environmental laws, which were becoming effective in the late 70’s and early 80’s, drew Bob to New Orleans for an opportunity working in the oilfield for Shell Oil Company in their offshore Gulf of Mexico division.

The oil and gas exploration and production industry has provided many adventures for Bob and his family over the last 37 years of his career. He has progressed from working with the City of Fort Wayne to an engineer at Shell working offshore, throughout the continental U.S., Alaska, and worldwide on environmental issues and finally into management as the Director of Environmental, Health, and Safety & Regulatory Compliance at Citation Oil and Gas Corp. in Houston, TX. However, Bob’s farm roots run deep and he still enjoys working on his family farm in Indiana.

While in New Orleans working for Shell, Bob met his future wife, Alisa, at First Baptist Church. They have been married for nearly 35 years and are blessed with four beautiful and accomplished daughters, Hayley, Madison, Kirsten, and Lanier. Bob and his wife are both active homeschooling parents, and he has been able to coach their daughters in numerous sports. The highlight of Bob’s basketball coaching career came with a Texas State Championship for his 12 and under girls team and a fourth place finish at Nationals that same year.

Bob’s favorite Bible verse is Matthew 25:40 which best describes his spiritual gift of service. Now living in Tomball, TX, Bob and his wife are active at Houston’s First Baptist Church. He has been a Sunday School Director and Teacher for approximately 20 years – influencing and encouraging high school students. He was selected as a Deacon in 2009 and currently serves as the Chairman of the Safety and Security Committee and is a Mission Site Coordinator for their annual student mission trips.
With his career in the oil industry and through church, Bob has been blessed to have traveled to 6 of the 7 continents and, with his family, has visited all 50 States.

Reflecting back to his high school years, he is grateful for the opportunities provided at Caston and particularly for the dedicated faculty, coaches, and staff who helped to prepare him for college and the years beyond and who were such a positive influence and encouragement in his life. While growing up on the family farm, supportive parents and siblings also helped to prepare him for the adventures and challenges lying ahead. While appreciative of these opportunities, support, and for this honor, he is most grateful for his Lord and Savior and for the opportunity to serve others.

## Caston's Distinguished Alumni Program

The Caston School district composed of Adams and Bethlehem Townships of Cass County, and Liberty and Wayne Townships of Fulton County united on August 2, 1959, under the jurisdiction of a school board composed of the Township Trustees. During the 1961-62 school year, the four schools of Fulton, Grass Creek, Twelve Mile and Metea were combined into two high schools known as North Caston High School and South Caston High School. The Caston School District became The Caston School Corporation on January 1, 1964. The first class graduating from one high school known as Caston High School was the class of 1964-65, even though it still operated on two campuses at that time. This was done to help merge the two student bodies into one and to better accommodate their educational needs. In August of 1964, the Caston School Building Corporation was formed to provide adequate financing for the construction of a new facility that could house grades K-12. On April 24, 1966, groundbreaking ceremonies were held on a rainy day with a sizable crowd present to celebrate the beginning of construction for the present facility. On November 19, 1967 a formal dedication was held for the new school.

Many of the graduates of Caston High School have gone on to lead highly successful lives. This year, 2017-2018, marks the seventh class of distinguished alumni for Caston School Corporation. The purpose of the distinguished alumni program is to demonstrate to students, staff, community and nearby areas that Caston has much to offer and there are many paths one may take upon graduation that results in successful and productive lives.

We encourage individuals to nominate successful Caston graduates since the class of 1962, living or deceased, who have been out of school for at least ten years for the distinguished alumni program. Publication for nominations is made annually and forms will be available on the school web page (www.caston.k12.in.us) or can be requested in the school offices.

# Caston School Corporation Distinguished Alumni

*Class of 2018*

**Roger Byrum '88**

**Robert J. Redweik, Jr. '76**