



Robert Slaughter
Class of 2004
May Alum of the Month

Our May Alum of the Month is Mr. Robert Slaughter. Robert is a product of St. Louis the King grade school before moving on to Bourgade Catholic High School, where he graduated from in 2004.

Robert, admittedly, was not the best student in school. As many male high schoolers are these days, Robert's focus stayed on girls, video games, and sports. It wasn't until junior year when Robert's best friend recommended that he read a fantasy book by R.A. Salvatore; the book ultimately sparked a love for reading. Sometime later, Robert was in a bookstore and became intrigued by a book by, world-renowned physicist, Stephen Hawking. This

book helped set the path or Robert's future with his sights now focused on becoming a physicist. Five years later, Robert graduated with a bachelor's in Space Physics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona. His time at ERAU further developed his love for physics, but also started his career with the Air Force through the ROTC program. Robert followed up his undergraduate degree with a master's degree in Physics from the Air Force Institute of Technology in Ohio, and then on to the beach to work for the USAF in Melbourne, Florida. His education continued when he returned to Ohio for his PhD, officially becoming Dr. Slaughter. Robert has been in the military for eight years and says that it has been the most amazing job on the planet and a wonderful opportunity for him and many others. However, Robert's service doesn't start and stop with the military.

Robert and his wife are the founders of *Bee the Swarm*, a company that develops video games that donate 100% of its game revenue to charity organizations and causes around the world. The Slaughters started *Bee the Swarm* with hopes to create video games that not only save the game world, but the real world as well. Since they launched, they've been able to provide backpacks of supplies to the homeless, facilitate an emergency surgery for a puppy in need, and even 3D print a prosthetic limb for a child. This was all made possible, simply by playing *Bee the Swarm* games on mobile devices. They currently have two games in the Games for Charity network, *ZomBees - Bee the Swarm* and *2048 - Bee the Swarm*. Both games are available for download on iOS and Google Play platforms. Anyone who would like to help *Bee the Swarm* can download their games by going to beetheswarm.com.

Robert's success and dedication to making the world a better place through video games leaves a trail back to his days in the Arizona Catholic school system. Whether it be his lifelong friendships from his grade school days or being challenged by some of his favorite teachers at Bourgade Catholic, including Mr. Rich Browner, Robert has certainly not forgotten where he comes from and all the memories he shared at BCHS. When asked what Robert's greatest accomplishment was during his time at BCHS, he responded,

"I think my greatest accomplishment was just having a blast while I was there. I maybe didn't know it at the time, but I really did have a great time at BCHS. I ran track, really loved the sport. Had a couple school records at the time, and was captain for two years. I played basketball as well. Wasn't good. I was even worse at football though."

If you're often around the Bourgade Catholic community these days, you're no stranger to the idea of encouraging our students to be servant leaders. Although he graduated 12 years ago, Robert is still carrying out the lessons BCHS strives to teach, today. His story is certainly inspiring and a testament to the Bourgade Catholic experience that has been cherished by so many since its opening in 1962.

Robert is currently living in Albuquerque, New Mexico with his high school sweetheart turned wife (Ironwood HS), his 1 ½ year old daughter, and their two dogs. Robert is currently serving as active duty for the United States Air Force where he works with telescopes and computer vision research, along with his work for *Bee the Swarm*.

Robert, thank you, not only for your service to this country, but for your service to this world.

Anyone who would like to learn more about Robert's journey with *Bee the Swarm*, please follow the links below. You can help Robert's cause by downloading his two games on you Android or Apple devices or by checking out *Bee the Swarm's* Kickstarter page:

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/869917981/bee-the-swarm>