

A LIFE *Transformed* Essay Project



Alfred C. Walgenbach Class of 1967

"Dean Waterman and Schoolcraft College took a chance on me and that changed my life. I attribute much of my success during my career to the education I received at Schoolcraft College."

Al's Bio

An alumnus of Schoolcraft College's Architectural program, "Al" used his education to eventually become National Director of Construction and then Vice President of Construction for A & P Supermarkets. After 14 years of service, he retired in 2004. Al attributes much of his success to the education and confidence he received attending Schoolcraft College. Al lives in Shelby Township, Michigan with his wife Pat.



Read Alfred's original essay below.



Alumni and Friends

The Schoolcraft College Alumni Program exists to strengthen and maintain the ties between the college and its alumni. We recognize and celebrate alumni accomplishments and create opportunities for alumni to share in the growth and success of Schoolcraft College.



To learn more about our Alumni Program contact the Alumni Relations Office at 734-462-4501 or vrexius@schoolcraft.edu

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A Chance

I graduated from Schoolcraft College in 1967 with an associate degree in architecture, but my relationship with SC actually started before I even enrolled as a student. I graduated from Thurston High School in 1964 and must admit that I was a very poor student.

After high school graduation I went to work in a small factory. However, after suffering a very serious accident at the factory I decided not to continue my employment. I decided instead that I wanted to go back to school. I applied to Schoolcraft College. I took the entrance exam and failed.

I then requested, and was granted, an appointment with Dean Lois Waterman. I asked her what I could do to gain admission into the school. She told me to take algebra and English composition courses at one of the high schools and return to her with a grade of "B" or better and she would reconsider my admission.

Consequently, I went back to high school and took the courses she recommended and if memory serves me correctly I received an "A" and "B." When I returned to Dean Waterman she showed me where she had written in my folder that if I attended the two classes and returned to her with the appropriate grades she would let me into the school on probation. She warned me that day that I must never fall below a 2.5 GPA. I believe that I graduated with a 3.4 average.

Dean Waterman and Schoolcraft College took a chance on me and that changed my life.

Following graduation from SC, I went to work immediately for Chatham Super Markets as their first architectural draftsman. During 1968 I was married and drafted into the army. After three years in the service I returned to Chatham Super Markets and served as a maintenance dispatcher, maintenance supervisor, construction supervisor, and construction engineer.

In 1983 I joined Great Scott Supermarkets as the director of construction and served in that capacity for seven years. In 1990, I was recruited by A&P (The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co.) as their director of construction for Farmer Jack Super Markets. During my 14 years with A&P I was promoted to national director of construction and vice president of construction. I retired in 2004.

I attribute much of my success during my career to the education I received at Schoolcraft College.

Alfred C. Walgenbach - Class of 1967