

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

BY JED DIETRICH '87

Colleen and Jed Dietrich, pictured with Canisius President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J., established the Jed Dietrich, Esq. '87 and Colleen Dietrich, Esq. Scholarship at Canisius.

Canisius High School profoundly shaped me athletically, academically and spiritually.

The rowing team and **Joseph Krakowiak '63**, the head rowing coach when I rowed, influenced my Canisius experience immensely. Joe provided me with structure and broad-based goal-setting inspiration that has led to much of my personal success. A core concept that Joe advised was that an extreme work ethic and a passion for doing your very best in everything would result in outstanding outcomes.

Joe was highly organized, always cognizant of time management and supremely aware of setting goals, accomplishing goals and thereafter reaching for higher achievements. This, coupled with the culture of Canisius which I found to be competitive and inspirational in terms of feeding my personal ambitions both athletically and academically, laid a foundation for career success.

From an academic standpoint, I found great growth from the rigorous workload. This led to success at Temple University where I graduated Magna Cum Laude with a triple major of Economics, Real Estate and Pre-Law in 1991. This then led to a Juris Doctor degree from the University at Buffalo Law School in 1995. Canisius taught that putting the nose to the grindstone results in success academically. This is a bread and butter concept that is often overlooked in our society of immediate self-gratification through perceived shortcuts.

Upon spiritual reflection, Canisius fostered my personal growth with God. Canisius taught that God is there for us in good times and in bad times. Moreover, Canisius taught that throughout life one comes to forks in the road that must be traversed carefully. I frequently use this analogy with my staff to advise that we must always: Chose the right path morally, chose the right path legally, and chose the right path interpersonally to treat others as we would like to be treated. Canisius taught these tenets, encouraged these tenets, and has inspired me to live by these tenets. Because I went to Canisius and because I was exposed to these values, I lead my legal team by these tenets and encourage my team



Jed Dietrich with rowing coach Joe Krakowiak.



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members to live in this way. I am blessed to have been provided with this education and I am blessed to be in a position to encourage others to provide the highest level of personal injury service in this way.

Moreover, **Jed IV '21** is a fourth generation Canisius student. Both of his grandfathers, **Jed '60** and **George Doyle '53**, and great grandfather **Vincent Doyle '23**, are alumni. Colleen has always felt a loyal bond with Canisius and was strongly in favor of establishing the scholarship. It's our hope that Jed IV will continue supporting his legacy.

Finally, President Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J. and Principal Andrea Tyrpak-Endres have shown great care, fortitude and exceptional leadership. Because Jed IV is an Ignatian Scholar, we've been exposed to the school's ability to vigorously push students to excel and to strive for excellence in every facet of the person. I am pleased to see that Canisius still provides the foundation to shape the future leaders of our country.

It is, has been, and always will be our pleasure to support Canisius so that others may have a similar experience.