

Good afternoon,

I have to admit that I was very pleasantly surprised to see this e-mail from Alfred State College when I came home today. Seeing it and skimming over the web site brought back some incredible memories of the time that I spent at Alfred. Of course this is going back to the years 1987-1989, but it seems like yesterday that I made the drive to Western New York for the first time after I got out of the Marines.

The reason I am writing you is just to let you know what an incredible influence that Alfred has had in my life. When I got out of the Marines in 1987, I had a vague idea of the direction that I wanted my life to take. I thought for sure that after almost flunking out after the first semester, I would have ended up like so many of my friends who had dropped out of college. During my second semester, however, I was introduced to a wonderful woman who got me back on track. Dr. Tanya Ludutsky, who no longer works at Alfred, worked with me that second semester and helped me through difficult academic and personal times. She helped me to realize the value of an education and was available to me to help with whatever I needed. This is what I remember most about Alfred. The willingness of each and every person that chose to go the extra mile for every student. I thought that when I left Alfred I would end my education and find a job working with people. I ended up continuing my education and am currently a special education teacher. I am positive that the guidance I received in my two years at Alfred enabled me to be where I am today. I have earned two Masters degrees and am one and a half years away from earning my Doctorate.

I think that what I am trying to say is thank you. We don't get many chances in life to properly thank those who have helped us during our lives and I just wanted to do so now. I am confident that the help that I received almost twenty years ago is still being offered to students today. Thanks again.

Michael P. Doyle

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