

Comet Alumni Spotlight

Jimmy Brereton Class of 1997



Educational Background: After graduating from St. Thomas, I attended Woodruff High School. From there, I made my way down south and went to school at the University of South Florida. I graduated from USF in 2005 with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication. While attending USF I continued to play hockey at the club level which was a lot of fun. After graduating from USF, I went to E.M.T school and the Fire Academy, both at St. Petersburg College in Florida. I moved back north to the city of Chicago in 2006 where I graduated from paramedic school in June of 2008.

Recent Achievements: Some of my recent achievements I think are funny and some interesting. I tried my hand at some acting, I guess you can call it acting, when I went on a reality television show in 2017 on a TLC program called The Spouse House. Being on the show was a lot of fun and I was able to meet a lot of great people. I still live in the great city of Chicago and I work as a Firefighter/Paramedic in the suburbs. I have traveled to 6/7 continents. I still need to get to Australia. Out of the 6 continents I have been to, I think Antarctica was the most interesting.

Family: My parents are Edie and Steve Brereton who last year celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and have helped me out greatly along my way through life. I have an older sister Stephanie who works as a mortician and funeral director, who is a Comet alumni. I also have an older brother who was a comet, John Brereton. John is a commercial airline pilot and lives in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Favorite Experience as a St. Thomas Comet: My favorite experience as a Comet was a field trip we took to Chicago. The reason why it was my favorite was because Mark Markovich, who is Kevin Markovich's dad, attended as a chaperon and I also had my dad attend. I really looked up to Mr. Markovich and we all were able to walk next to Soldier Field and Mr. Markovich told us some stories about how he had played against the Bears at the famous field when he played for the Detroit Lions back in the day. Having my dad along for the trip was great because he's always fun to have around. I'll never forget that trip and great day in Chicago.

St. Thomas teacher who made an impact on you: I believe the teacher I had that made the biggest impact on me was my second grade teacher Mrs. Parish. Mrs. Parish was always just in a good mood. She made me sort of realize that you can learn a lot at school but also have fun. She was always laughing and you never wanted to disappoint her. She would take her time with students, especially me, when you wouldn't understand something. She never made you feel dumb and she made coming to class fun. Thank you Mrs. Parish 😊.

Piece of advice for current Comets: Nothing lasts forever and get out and see the world. When times aren't so great, don't worry, it won't last. When times are great, cherish them because they won't last. Enjoy your youth and time that you have at St. Thomas. If you stay out of trouble and keep your mind moving forward you're going to have a lot of opportunities to do great things in this world. Don't be afraid to get out and try new things. Go see the world and what it has to offer. Most of all.... Time flies, it seems like it was only a few years ago that I was at St. Thomas doing those awful arithmetic time cards!!!! Have fun Comets!!!

