

# Comet Alumni Spotlight

**Brooklyn Fredericks Swank**

St. Thomas Class of 2008



**Educational Background:** I proudly attended St. Thomas Catholic School Kindergarten through eighth grade, and graduated in 2008. I went on to complete all four years of high school at Peoria Notre Dame High School and graduated in 2012. In 2016, I received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Early Childhood Education with a Special Education from Illinois State University.

**Recent Achievements:** As much as I loved to teach, I love real estate just as much! Being raised in a family who had a large focus in the real estate industry, I knew that real estate was a career path I wanted to pursue. In 2016, I began my real estate career along the side of my father, Bob Fredericks, at RE/MAX Traders Unlimited in Peoria IL. The joy, happiness, and opportunities real estate has brought me has been amazing! I look forward to seeing what the future holds for the real estate world!

**Family:** Family is everything to me! I grew up in a family that was very close and connected. My lovely parents, Bob & Monica Fredericks, are still happily married and are doing amazing! I have two beautiful sisters, Madissyn & Brenyn Fredericks, who are also featured this month as Comet Alumni! In 2019, I married my high school sweetheart, Jacob Swank. In 2022, we adopted the most precious baby boy, Beckham Crew Swank. He is absolutely perfect and has been the biggest gift from God! We prayed and prayed and prayed for a baby, and our prayers have finally been answered. The power of prayer is incredible. Always know God is listening!

**Favorite experience as a St. Thomas Comet:** There are so many great experiences as a St. Thomas Comet! If I had to choose one experience, I would probably say being a cheerleader my eighth grade year. Cheerleading has been such a huge part of my life ever since I was a little girl. I enjoyed every aspect of cheerleading- getting ready for the "big" games and competitions, tumbling, stunting, memorizing all the cheers and chants! It was all just so much fun and was something I looked forward to all the time!

**St. Thomas teacher who made an impact on you:** Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Schindler, and Mrs. Crawmer were amazing teachers at St. Thomas. I cannot thank you enough for the love, patience, and support you gave to me and every other student that came through your class. You three made a huge impact on me as a student and as a teacher! I will never forget the memories we made throughout the years of me being a St. Thomas Comet.

**Piece of advice for current Comets:** My piece of advice for all you current Comets. Never ever give up, do what is right, and always try your best! Always have faith and trust in God! Talk to him every single day. I promise you, God is always listening! Being a St. Thomas Comet is a blessing and is something you all should cherish. You are living the moments you will never get back- so enjoy every moment. The days, months, and years go by so quick. In a blink of an eye, you will be a college graduate, have your own little family, and may also be writing your Comet Alumni Spotlight article, just like me. I love my Comet family!

