

A Five-Generation Texas Tech Legacy

Four years ago, when Justin Strickland was a high school senior considering his options for college, it might have been curiosity that drew him in at first. But after experiencing the Red Raider Road Show in Houston where he heard the words, "From Here, It's Possible", he soon understood what it means to have Red Raider enthusiasm in his bloodline.

Justin is now a senior civil engineering student and his brother Jonah is a junior mechanical engineering student. These young men have not looked back since deciding to make Texas Tech their university of choice; except to appreciate the Texas Tech legacy that has been laid by four other generations in their family. These include their parents, their grandparents, their great-grandparents, and even their great-great-grandfather. The nine degrees obtained from Texas Tech by these generations have enabled their holders to pursue fulfilling careers in various fields: education and academia, business, counseling, engineering, aerospace, research, and petrochemicals.

In the early 1930's, Justin's and Jonah's great-great-grandfather, Louis Harvey Alldredge was a school teacher who had some college credits prior to attending Texas Tech. He had been working on a degree in education for several years while simultaneously tending to his teaching duties. During this time, his daughter, Mildred Alldredge was also attending Tech. Louis graduated in 1937, and Mildred, at age 19, graduated with a degree in Home Economics in 1938.

In 1939, James Hassler Strickland, Sr. graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in Business Administration and married Mildred Alldredge that same year. For most of his career, James (Hassler) was the District Manager for Social Security in eastern New Mexico. After retiring from that job, he went back to Texas Tech and received his M.Ed. (1980) and Ed.D (1982) degrees which enabled him to pursue a second career as a family counselor. During his time in graduate school, his son, Jim (James H Strickland Jr., B.S. Mechanical Engineering, 1965) was a professor in the Texas Tech College of Engineering. Also, during this time, Jim's son, Jeff Thomas Strickland began his freshman year at Tech. Jeff graduated with a degree in chemical engineering in 1986 and returned two years later to obtain his M.S. in Chemical Engineering in 1990. Also in 1990, Jim's son, Gerald Scott Strickland received his Bachelor of Architecture degree.

Jeff's son, Justin, will graduate in December 2014 with a degree in civil engineering, conferring his family's legacy of Red Raider pride, honor, and tradition to the fifth generation ... and possibly beyond. From here, it's possible!

