

February 26, 2023

South Bend Alumni Association Hall of Fame Nominations

RE: Support of Jack Champaigne for 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write in support of the nomination of Jack Champaigne for the South Bend Alumni Association's Hall of Fame for 2023. I first met Jack in Fall of 2004, when I returned to the South Bend area after working outside of Chicago for a few years post-college. We met as I started to become involved in the St Joe Valley Purdue Alumni Club, of which Jack has been a long-time member and one of the Club's greatest assets.

Jack's contributions to the Club have been beyond generous through the years. The goal of the Club is to raise scholarship funds for students in St Joe County that are pursuing a degree on any of Purdue's campuses – be it in West Lafayette or here in South Bend. Jack had long been a named sponsor, in giving \$1,000 annually to a student – but as the cost of education rose, Jack worked to increase his commitment. Yes, Purdue has famously held off tuition increases but there were still the ever-growing challenges for students with the cost of books, lab materials, and room and board. Jack increased his commitment to student success, and now provides a \$5,000 scholarship annually which can be renewed by the student. His effort to go “one brick higher” in his giving inspired others – both individuals and local companies. The Club last year alone was able to award \$43,000 to local students. The Club simply would not be where we are if it were not for Jack's leadership.

Besides helping our local Purdue Club, I know firsthand how Jack loves South Bend and honors his roots. He is always willing to invite others to join him for the South Bend Symphony Orchestra, as well as South Bend Civic Theater. On top of being a successful entrepreneur, I also know Jack to be an amazing and supportive boss to his employees at Electronics, Inc. – which can be highlighted by the many years of tenure that his workers have accumulated. Jack demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to his community as well as to the public.

With regards to the South Bend Alumni Association Award, Jack is a wonderful ambassador, and I am proud to be able to write to support his nomination. Jack makes a difference in the lives of those around him and has positively impacted those in the South Bend community. His skills, knowledge, willingness to help others, and dedication to our community make him a Hall of Fame candidate.

Sincerely,

Lori Szczypiorski

Purdue Club of St Joe Valley Treasurer

Product Manager, Godfrey Marine