

## **Life after Alpha**

I was really excited when Sister Paulita asked me to write “Life after Alpha” spot. Now that I have two of my three children at Alpha, Anthony in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Riley in Kindergarten, I am happy to share my perspective about Alpha and my “Life after Alpha”.

After Alpha, I attended North Catholic and then Penn State graduating in 1998. I worked at Dalloz Fall Protection in Franklin, Pa as an Assistant Product Manager from 1997-2000. I married High School sweetheart Sharon in 2000 and we purchased our first home in Cranberry Twp. Also in 2000, I followed my boss to Fisher Scientific in Robinson Township where I held many positions including Senior Product Manager and I gained my first Sales Management experience. In 2001, Sharon and I had our first child Christopher “Anthony” Jr. We had our second in 2003 Riley McKenna and we moved into our current home shortly thereafter. In 2004, I left Fisher for Mine Safety Appliances in Cranberry where I was the Product Manager for Permanent Gas Detection followed by first responder APR, and Cairns Fire Helmets. 2007 was a busy year in the Warda household, we had our third child, Ryann McKenzie, Anthony started Kindergarten at Alpha School and I took my current position with Swiger Coil Systems as a Business Development Manager/National Sales Manager. Swiger manufactures electric motors and generators for trains, electric vehicles, and wind turbines.

Alpha School was a great choice for my Primary Education. “I’m thankful that my parents sacrificed to send me there”. It prepared me well for my “Life after Alpha” and I think it helped me to get where I am today through the confidence it gave me to succeed and be myself among my peers. Even though I do not see my Alpha friends very often, I still consider them all really great friends!

Over the years, Alpha has really changed yet it has stayed the same. My children learned how to swim at Alpha and they have been exposed to unique experiences like Chinese and Spanish classes in Kindergarten! They still have world-class teachers (Some of which were there when I was....)! Plus, the class sizes really allow for one-on-one focus and attention. If you are an Alpha alumni still living in the Pittsburgh area and you have children in the Alpha School grade range, I would recommend giving them a call to give your kids the same head start your parents gave to you!

Christopher Warda 1990