

In honor of Patrick Quinlan...and memories

*The Young Alumni Club allows recent Adrian College graduates the chance to give back via an affordable monthly gift. This gift can be applied to support any area of campus.*

*This month's profile features Jennifer Perrin, a 2010 graduate from Kalamazoo, MI.*

Jennifer Perrin's time at Adrian College was so great that she met her husband here. The two still talk about their time as Bulldogs - a lot.

"We talk about Adrian more than we should because there are so many amazing memories," she said. "It's something that gives us a warm feeling."

Jennifer said she was drawn to AC not only for the opportunity to continue playing basketball but the chance to get the small-classroom education the college prides itself on. Being part of a campus undergoing a major revitalization didn't hurt matters either.

"Adrian was going through a major transformation on campus with education and sports," she said. "It's why I bought in. I was going to be a part of the development of Adrian College in the modern day and that was really exciting."

The small class sizes and personalized education paid off for Jennifer as she now works at a digital marketing agency in Raleigh, N.C. The professors she had as a business administration and marketing major had a tremendous impact on who she is today, she said.

"I had an amazing group of professors who helped me every step of the way," Jennifer said. "They really helped me form as a confident person and to become a leader in my field. That's something I will always be thankful for."

Dr. Patrick Quinlan, professor of marketing, is one in particular who influenced Jennifer, enough so that her monthly donation is in honor of him.

"He was an amazing teacher and is now a longtime friend and mentor," she said. "Anything and everything I can do to give back to him and the business department, I will, because that group of people was like my family when I was at Adrian. They not only helped me with school but also in developing into a leadership figure in class and on the court. Their guidance extended well beyond the classroom."

People like Dr. Quinlan are why the memories she and her husband share are so frequent.

"My experience was really amazing because I got to know a great group of people," Jennifer said. "When you go to a small school like Adrian, there is the opportunity to get to know your peers and professors. I was lucky enough to have incredible classmates who are doing big things in the world and a great group of professors who still to this day support me."

Jennifer said her donations will never truly be enough to thank AC, but it's a good place to start.

"While my contributions at this point aren't huge, what Adrian College did for me when I was there is something I will never be able to repay but I'm certainly going to try."

