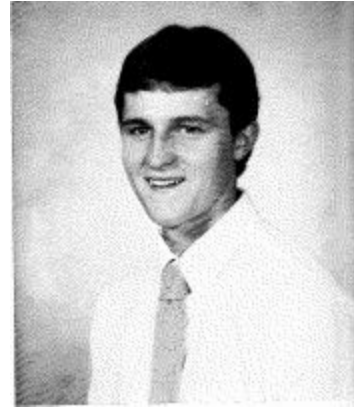


Jeff Stithem

Class of 1989



A Common Day at School

For Jeff, a normal day at Royal Valley High School would begin in the school commons. Most kids hung out here before school and sometimes after. In the mornings students would have their core classes, such as math, science, and English, while in the afternoon students would have more electives, such as GPD and agriculture classes. After school was over for the day, athletes would go to the locker rooms to get ready for practice. For Jeff Stithem, this would mean getting ready for football, basketball, and track.

Activities

Throughout high school, Jeff participated in many activities. Besides FFA, he was on the football team, the basketball team, and the track team. Jeff said that even though the teams were not that good, they all still had a good time. Unfortunately, Jeff did not get to play basketball his senior year because he blew his knee out.

Dances

Dances are always a fun time after a great game. During Jeff's time at Royal Valley there were five different dances throughout the year: Back-to-School Dance, Homecoming, King and

Queen of Courts, FFA Dance, and Prom. People did dress up for Homecoming and King and Queen of Courts where most guys wore slacks and ties and the girls wore dresses.

School Food

Jeff's favorite school food would've been pizza. "They made good pizza," commented Jeff. At lunch students could also buy Panther Sandwiches, which were ice cream sandwiches, for \$1.00 each. There also were vending machines, and students could buy pop and cookies at any time of the day.

How RV Helped Prepare Jeff for the Future

Royal Valley has helped Jeff with agriculture and self-discipline. By taking ag classes and being a part of FFA, Jeff left high school knowing more about animal science and how to run a farm. He also learned a lot of self-discipline from his coaches. Today Jeff is currently a distribution manager at a business in Topeka, and he is also self-employed at his own farm.

Advice for Current Seniors

"Remember that high school is short. Take advantage of the time you have because the responsibility that you have to take on when you leave grows. And don't make silly mistakes that you'll regret for the rest of your life."

Article by Josie Matsapto

13 October 2016

