

## **Alumni Spotlight: Alex Gilges '10 is aiming sky high**

**St. Mary's School Alumnus Alex Gilges was recently accepted into the U.S. Naval Pilot Program. He hopes to fly jets and will go to flight school after college graduation.**

**In catching up with Alex, he shares some of his experiences and achievements since St. Mary's School.**

**What has been your educational path since St. Mary's School?**

Since St. Mary's School, I graduated from McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester and am now at the University of California San Diego, where I am studying applied mathematics with a business minor.

**What are your professional goals and what has led you to these pursuits?**

I am in Naval ROTC at UC San Diego, and after I graduate this spring, I will be going to Naval Flight School in Pensacola, Florida, to become a fighter pilot.

**What impact has St. Mary's School had on your life?**

St. Mary's gave me an extremely close-knit family of friends that I still meet up with regularly eight years after graduating. I am sure I will maintain friendships with them for the rest of my life. I am also a leading member of my fraternity at UC-San Diego where I have held multiple executive positions. I joined my fraternity because I was looking for something like the close-knit family I found at SMS to be with while I was in college.

SMS teachers were always prepared to recognize my specific interests and cater my education directly towards those interests.

**Do you have a favorite St. Mary's School memory?**

My favorite St. Mary's School memory is exploring Philadelphia with my friends on our 7th-grade class trip, and also Mr. Meigg's heartwarming speech at my graduation.

*St. Mary's School would love to hear about all the wonderful things our alumni are doing. If you know an alumnus who should be profiled, please email St. Mary's School at [smcdcs@dor.org](mailto:smcdcs@dor.org).*