

Jonathan Beard

7/27/17

Biography

I was born Jonathan Scott Beard in Yuba City, to the care of the best people in the world, my parents Robert and Corrina Beard. As a child we moved around quite a bit, I didn't stay at the same elementary school for any longer than 2 years, not because of bad behavior or anything just my Dad was a manager of Long John Silver's, which entailed moving from store to store. At the age of 10 we had moved back to the Olivehurst area where I went to Yuba Gardens for middle school. Those were good years with great teachers. I went on to go to Lindhurst High School, a high school on the smaller side. Thankfully the AP programs were really starting to show up and I gladly took as many as I could, including AP Calculus with Mr. Blake and AP Physics with Mr. Atkinson. These courses, most importantly the teachers, really fueled my desire for math and science.

While still in high school I enlisted in the Army Reserves in the delayed enlistment program, which meant 1 month after graduating from high school I was off to Basic Training. After almost a year in I graduated from Advanced Individual Training with my newly acquired MOS of 25s, Satellite Communications Operator/Maintainer. After about 6 months I of working at Toys'R'Us I decided it was time to get back into college. So in 2009 I attempted my real first semester at Yuba College, I had taken a few classes while in High School but never a full load. Being 19 and living with some of my closest friends I found it hard to concentrate on school and wound up with a mixed bag of grades, an "A", a "C", and an "F". I thought maybe college wasn't for me, that maybe I lacked the discipline for it. Thankfully I got a break to reevaluate this in the form of my first and second deployment. They were spaced about a year apart. The gap of a year I had moved back in with my parents and was just as lazy as I could be basically. The deployment had messed with my a little bit, not as bad as some, but the effects were noticeable to my friends and family.

After another year and more soul searching, and a lot of pushing from my parents, thankfully, I enrolled again at Yuba College in 2013. This time I was much more focused and mature, enough to manage straight A's. While at Yuba College I had to decide on what major I was going to pursue. I had always enjoyed playing on the computer and my brother had transferred to Cal Poly for Computer Engineering at this point so it seemed a logical choice to attempt the same path, especially since up until High School I was basically my brother's shadow trying to do everything he did. After my Engineering 10 course with Prof. Warwick I decided I would try to branch out on my own and go into Robotic Engineering. After some research I found there isn't really any undergraduate programs for Robotic Eng., so I went ahead and continued with Computer Engineering, as it is one of the best feeder majors for it. After taking my first programming course with Prof. Johsch, I knew I had made the correct choice. I loved every aspect of computer programming, the more I took the more it seemed my path came into focus. My last few semesters I was lucky enough to become Professor Shaukat's grader for Physics, where I learned the true importance of writing clearly, showing work, and labeling everything. I had a much greater appreciation for all of my professors after having graded for two semesters.

At the time of writing this I am currently enrolled and waiting to start my first semester at San Jose State University, where I will be perusing my Bachelor's in Computer Engineering. I still have yet to decide where I will be going after San Jose, but my future seems open and I've already got deadlines to meet so I'll have to put that off to future Jon.