



A Lasting Impression

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I attended The University of Akron in the early 1990s, not as a traditional student right out of high school, but as a still-impressionable young man in my early thirties. I had always wanted to attend college in the traditional sense but was unable to do so due to various circumstances and life choices. I had attended community college and another four year state school off and on, but then I came to UA later and am so glad I did.

My most cherished experience at was with a professor who left a lasting impression on me. He had a profound influence on my decisions and judgment during my more than thirty years as a police officer. Dr. Christopher Smith was a

political science teacher and an attorney whose knowledge of constitutional law was vast. He taught me the true meanings of compassion, tolerance, respect, and the rule of law that it took to do my job effectively, both at that time and later on in my career. He had a teaching style that was engaging. I am truly indebted to Dr. Smith and the University.

I am happy to say that a second generation of my family is now attending UA and walking a beautiful campus with lots of green space and many new buildings. My daughter does not have to fight traffic or cross busy streets as I did when I was there. I am grateful for all the positive changes the University has made to date and the lasting impressions, both for me and hopefully for future graduates.