

## **Gina Bayer**

Fellow classmates will most likely remember Gina Bayer as an athlete. At Xavier High School, this Class of 1980 graduate had a sports legacy that included four years as a starter on the varsity basketball team—competing each year for the state championship and winning the title in 1978. In addition, she played two years of varsity volleyball, had one year of track, and ran cross country one year. Her athletic accomplishments were only part of that legacy. Gina also earned distinction as the salutatorian of 1980, and received many awards, such as the Appleton Rotary Outstanding Student for 1978, and the Bob Lloyd Noon Optimist Club Scholarship award, for her dedication to service and academics.

At the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Gina's athletic success continued as a four year starter for the women's basketball team. She ended her career as the Pointers' all-time leader in blocked shots and one of the top 20 scorers in team history. Named a team co-captain in 1983, Gina earned WWIAC Honorable Mention All-Conference recognition. Her academic accolades were no less impressive where she earned the Chancellor's Leadership Award and obtained an Academic Excellence standing. Gina graduated college in 1984 with a B.S. in Water Chemistry.

Gina then began an impressive career that focuses on the environment. Fresh out of school, she fought fires and cut down trees with the U.S. Forest Service in Wyoming. She also worked at the U.S. Department of Energy Savannah River Plant nuclear facility, the Center for Great Lakes Studies, and Hazleton Labs before entering the environmental counseling field in 1987. Gina started consulting with Ecology & Environment, Inc. in Chicago. While there, she applied the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund Hazard Ranking System at numerous sites throughout the Midwest. She also operated onsite laboratories in Alaska. In 1991, Gina joined CH2M, a Fortune 500 global engineering services firm. Her ability and collaborative nature propelled her through the ranks there, from Environmental Scientist to Project Manager to Program Manager and Global Practice Lead for CH2M Hill, directly managing three large fund-led Superfund site clean-ups and three contaminated sediment cleanups under the Great Lakes Legacy Act program, with combined revenue of over \$150 million.

True to her Xavier legacy, Gina has a career decorated with many awards and achievements. In 2013, her Sheboygan River sediment cleanup project won the Engineering News and Record Midwest Best Project Award, and the Western Dredging Association Environmental Excellence Award. In 2011, her KK River sediment cleanup project won the inaugural Environmental Excellence Award. She also has earned numerous "Outstanding" performance evaluation ratings from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, Gina has presented at several industry conferences and is published in the "Environmental Professionals Journal" and in the "World Dredging, Mining & Construction" magazine.

Outside of work, Gina has stayed committed to volunteering through service to the community and to the Church. She has four years of involvement with the American Red Cross, 10 years with the Boy Scouts of America, has participated in annual river trash cleanups, has been active as a member of the Christ Renews his Parish team, and serves meals to those in need.

Gina is wife to Bob Mayer, mother to Hunter (XHS '14), and daughter of proud parents, Jeanette and Jim Bayer. She currently resides in Appleton.