



CLASS OF 2020
CRUSADER OF THE MONTH
Jack Emeric DeLong
MONTH HONORED: May 2020

Mrs. Alexander is proud to nominate Jack DeLong as May Student of the Month.

I have known Jack DeLong for six years, having first been his teacher for his 7th grade World Cultures class. At that time, he was the most consistent, conscientious, and intellectually curious student in my class. Studious but not stiff, Jack worked well with his classmates and showed a desire to learn more in all areas. Jack has not changed but rather grown in all of these qualities since then.

I have known Jack best in my role as school librarian in which I have overseen Jack's online, independent study, and dual enrollment classes for the last five years. These types of classes allow Jack to take the most rigorous content our school offers in the classroom setting and at the same time explore interests outside of our curriculum. These classes have included Probability and Statistics; World History; Human Relations; and Blueprint Reading/CAD. What has struck me most in this time is Jack's ability to navigate the realm of online learning with ease. Jack regularly demonstrates the skills necessary to learn online and independently -- he reads closely, follows directions, demonstrates fluency in working with various online platforms, and contributes regularly and constructively in discussion boards. Many students have difficulty in online classes because they lack the maturity or scholastic independence to do these things. Jack has shown time and again his ability to learn in all kinds of settings.

Outside of the classroom, Jack has shown the same ability to learn and grow. He is willing to go way beyond the comfort zone of most of his peers in his extra-curricular activities. For example, he regularly auditions for and earns supporting roles in school musicals and performs charming duets in the annual talent show. Jack is one of the most enthusiastic members of our Quiz Bowl team and has all the fun his classmates are missing because they don't think they are smart enough. He is a member of the MCC Cross Country team and the National Honor Society. His volunteer activities include Kids Food Basket and Extra Life.

Jack DeLong is a kind, unfailingly polite young man who works well with others and independently. Jack is liked and respected by his peers, but not pressured by them -- he continues to do "uncool" things like being an altar server and singing solos at the school Mass. Jack is his own person and will be a huge asset Aquinas College, where he plans on studying mathematics and computer science -- and to his future friends and family.

Jack is the son of Brian and Krista DeLong and attends St. Francis de Sales church.