

PERRY HARSCHUTZ O'ROURKE '05

Changing the world, one smile at a time.

How did Linden Hall affect your life after graduation?

Linden Hall affected me in so many ways. After graduation, college was a big transition, but nothing I wasn't able to face. The friends I made at Linden Hall were always there for me and always an encouragement. I made friends easily with other girls in college and became involved quickly. The skills I learned at Linden Hall, such as study habits and time management, helped me to succeed in college. These habits have also helped me succeed as a working adult.



What piece of advice would you share with girls at Linden Hall today?

My advice would be to put away your phone and be present with your friends. Dream big and work smart to get there. Reach out to your teachers or someone you look up to who can help you become a better, stronger person. Life after college gets tough and having those older than you will help you get through those tough times. My last piece of advice is to be grateful, always, no matter what.

What did you love most about Linden Hall?

What I love most about Linden Hall is the sisterhood - a sisterhood of young women doing life together, becoming better, and growing into the women they were always meant to be. Together we are stronger women.

Describe your experience at Linden Hall. What is your favorite memory?

My experience at Linden Hall was wonderful. I rode a lot and loved being on the riding team. I also studied a lot. I enjoyed doing both though. I have such a wide network of friends now because of Linden Hall. Friends from all over the world. Not many people can say that. I have so many favorite memories from Linden Hall, but I always enjoyed Gretna Day.

How many years did you attend Linden Hall?

I attended Linden Hall for three years from my sophomore to senior year.

What clubs or sports were you a member of?

I was on the riding team, Co-captain with Alisa Pitt. I took riding very seriously so I didn't make time for any other clubs but if I would have it would have been Spanish club or photography. I loved my Spanish Teacher, Ms. Prosack.

What Blue and White team were you on?

White! It's still one of my favorite colors to this day too.

What college did you attend?

I attended the University of Virginia and Liberty University.

What is your occupation?

I work for a medical non-profit called Operation Smile. We help children in developing countries born with cleft palates and cleft lips receive safe surgery. Their lives are changed forever after the surgery because they can finally smile without fear of being bullied and picked on.

Do you participate in professional organizations?

I would consider my job at Operation Smile to be a professional organization, so other than that and church no.

Do you participate in community service? If so, what organizations? Any leadership roles?

My husband and I are the Youth Pastors for the middle and high school at Galilee Episcopal in Virginia Beach. We have both been heavily involved with the youth in one way or another throughout our life serving overseas in Africa or at our local youth group.

JUST FOR FUN

What is your favorite book?

I have a couple: *Scary Close* by Donald Miller, *Love Does* by Bob Goff, *Life is ____*. by Judah Smith, and I'm currently reading *Me before You* by Jojo Moyes.

What is your favorite movie or TV show?

My favorite movie is *Patch Adams*, and I enjoy watching *New Girl* or my guilty pleasure, *Jane the Virgin*. Both are very silly shows, but funny.

3 things you couldn't live without?

My husband - he is pretty awesome, my phone to stay in touch, and green tea. I drink almost 5 cups a day. I could probably live without it, but it's my main source of energy

while I'm finishing school.

Class notes and Alumnae Updates

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