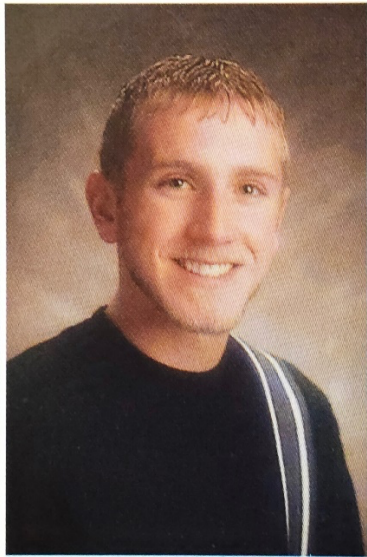


Distinguished Alumni Awards 2024 Durand Area Schools



Steven Zusack, Class of 2002



Steven Zusack has been selected for the Durand Distinguished Alumni Award for his academic excellence and career achievements.

- Attended Durand High School, where he developed a passion for learning and graduated with high honors in 2002. Earned a BA in Psychology and German at Wabash College, a BS in Mechanical Engineering and Math at Purdue, and an MS in Aeronautics and Astronautics Engineering at Purdue.
- Contributed to space exploration and spacecraft design at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, Marshall Space Flight Center, Langley Research Center, and Johnson Space Center.
- Achieved multiple awards for contributions and leadership in the Aerospace sector, including leadership in restructuring teams and transitioning to remote work effectively.
- Published extensively in industry conferences such as the IEEE Aerospace and AIAA Space Forum.
- Received numerous prestigious awards including the 2024 JPL Astrophysics Directorate Team Award and multiple Voyager Awards from JPL for exceptional contributions to team leadership and project efficiencies.
- Achieved recognition in academic settings with the AIAA Best Student Paper Award and inclusion as a National Finalist in the RASC-AL competition.
- Demonstrated commitment to advancing engineering education and aerospace concepts through contributions to the American Society for Engineering Education and participation in national competitions.
- Engaged in mentoring and leadership activities, fostering academic and professional growth in engineering communities, and contributing to broader educational and industry dialogues.