

The rest is (class) history...

Graduating class, Coach Atkerson, Coach Caulder, faculty, Board members, parents, families, and Eagle supporters, thank you so much for being here tonight. Thank you especially to the teachers, coaches, faculty members, and our parents who have helped us get to this point in our lives. Now, I am going to tell you a little bit about the Class of 2009, because finally, it is our time to shine. Some members of the class have been here almost their whole lives, starting in K-3, K-4, or K-5. More came in first grade and the rest have joined since. We have even had some classmates that left for a while and then came back. Throughout the years we have laughed and cried and had our share of drama. We have even been known to cause some of our teachers a little trauma.

I'll start this rhyme about the Class of 2009 with something about our great friend **Ally Douglass**. Ally loved listening to the Spice Girls and putting her hair in a fro. The joy in her heart was always sure to show. Ally could be found bouncing down the hallway or somewhere in town or with her many friends, just joking around. **Jenna Burroughs**, one of Ally's close friends, is good at dressing in the latest new trend. Jenna is a basketball lover at heart. Although this year she tried softball for a start. **Ashley Smith** is the most talkative girl here at RWA. She is known for giving compliments away. Ashley spends a lot of time at the lake where good times with friends she is sure to make. Another Ashley in our class is **Ashley Bedwell**. Getting to leave campus this year, she could hardly wait for the lunch bell. Ashley can be found riding around town and leaving skid marks. In the fall, USC Lancaster is where she'll start. Like Ashley, **Kaity Hill** is a quiet member of our class. The memories of her time helping with the kindergarten will last. In class, Kaity was always being teased by Thomas. But even through that, her composure is the calmest. **Amanda Owens** is one from our class, who left us for a while and then came back. This past year, Amanda was a cheerleader. Working at Sammy Jo's you are likely to see her. Now, on to whom I call the singing trio. **Brent Silvia** is one of these guys. With his good humor, he makes class fun, or at least tries. Brent loves a joke about going to launch. He is called Jerry by many in the bunch. **Keegan Johnson** is a lovable guy.

Some of the songs he has written might make you cry. This year, he was voted most dangerous driver. If you're looking for Julie, with Keegan, you might find her. **Caleb Chapman** is the last of this trio and another member of the golf team. For some reason he likes to wear pants that are plaid, white, or even green. Caleb played a big role on the golf course and football field I heard he has found new uses for a banana peel. **Zach Burroughs** is the Potato Chip Man. Driving around in his Ford, he is likely to be found. Zach's sense of humor is never out worn. Like in chemistry last year when he sounded the feasting horn. **Rachel Matthews** loves sports and is a country girl at heart. With her, the football team truly hates to part. Rachel has always helped to keep our class in line. I'm sure at Erskine next year she will do just fine. **Damon Ammons** is known for his short stature. But in football and soccer he proved that size doesn't always matter. Damon is also known for having many cars, and I've even seen him drinking out of a mason jar. **Kris Cameron** is our school's electrical man. Try keeping up with him, if you can. Kris is a funny guy who is always full of energy, and ready to fix whatever needs to be. In making memorable moments, **Mack Haynes** is a master. Who knew that golf carts and bushes could cause such a disaster? Over the years, Mack has had a rough time for sure. To this, he would most likely reply, I concur. In thinking of students who have had a rough time, **Davis Wilson** comes to mind. We call him Squirrel and he sometimes plays the part. He loves hunting and fishing and is a country boy at heart. Now onto the future Citadel boys. I'll start with **Thomas Wilkes**. He is a friendly guy who loves a good time. And also a massage to ease his mind. Thomas, or Chico, loves the game of football. We will truly miss him in the fall. **Joseph Talbert** is a good fellow. Although in some classes, he is very mellow. Joseph can often be found riding in his Jeep. He has made a difference as a star athlete. Another future Citadel boy is **Myles Rowe**. We don't know why, but that fish in his story always seemed to grow. Myles was this year's Student Body president. We wish him well as he becomes a Charleston resident. **Stephen Roof** rounds out this group of Citadel guys. In class, he makes comments that are funny and even wise. Stephen plays bass guitar and paintball, too. Last year he sported a Mohawk hair-do.

Luke Davis is another paintball fan. Led Zeplin is one of his favorite bands. Luke is smart in science and has lots of computer skill. He often ends his sentences with, "if you will." **Jim Frazier** is another guy full of computer knowledge. He has chosen USC to be his college. Often, when it comes to expressing his view, Jim's challengers are very few. **Lauren Pendergrass** is our class president. She is excited to be a future Clemson resident. Sports such as softball and volleyball she did play. She has also held the title of Miss RWA. When you think of Lauren, **Julie Locklair** automatically comes to mind. Without her, our class sure would be in a bind. Julie is our valedictorian and has a caring heart. In the fall, USC is where she'll start. **Max Hazen** is the Pepsi Man. On the baseball field, he plays in the sand. On the pitcher's mound, short stop, or third base, I mean. He was certainly an important part of the team. **Trow Hazen** is Max's brother. You can't have one without the other. Trow also loves the game of baseball. He is a fun guy who is very athletic and also quite tall. **Cayla Sanders** is another talkative one. Being the class clown, this girl is a lot of fun. Cayla could be heard singing in the hallway or speaking her mind. In expressing her opinion, she is not afraid, you will find. **Candace Walters** is the yearbook editor. She is a Southern girl with a lot of character. At RWA, Candace has spent many years as a cheerleader. Wearing shorts and flip-flops you are most likely to see her. **Katherine Inkley** is one of Candace's good friends. Some people don't know this, but she is quite an equestrian. We can't forget that time in Spanish class when Kat passed out. That was one of her most memorable moments, no doubt. Last we have me, another quiet one. My years here at RWA have sure been a lot of fun. I am the class bully, as Keegan would say. But I love all of my classmates anyway. As you have heard of my classmates one by one, I hope you can see just where I'm coming from. Thank you for listening to this poem about the Class of 2009. From where I stand, we will be just fine.

- Harriet Kelsey
Class of 2009 Salutatorian

