

## Alumni Spotlight: A Westmoreland Family Legacy – Adam & Gregory “Chef G” Nemchick



This holiday season, Westmoreland County Community College is proud to celebrate a remarkable father-and-son story—one that reflects the power of education, reinvention and family tradition. Adam Nemchick, Class of 2009, and his father, Gregory “Chef G” Nemchick, Class of 2024, represent two generations united by their shared Westmoreland experience and the opportunities it helped unlock.

For Adam, who grew up in Hempfield Twp, and now lives in Reading, Westmoreland was the perfect place to begin charting his future. Like many recent high school graduates, he wasn’t entirely sure where he wanted to go next. Enrolling at Westmoreland allowed him to stay close to home while exploring his interests, ultimately leading him to study Business Management from 2006 to 2009. After graduating, Adam continued his education at Saint Vincent College, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Communication—an achievement that helped launch a successful, people-centered career.

Adam’s professional path was shaped by initiative, mentorship and a willingness to step outside his comfort zone. After attending a networking event with his father in 2012, he discovered a passion for the furniture industry, handing out flash drives loaded with his résumé to potential contacts. That confidence paid off with a job offer, and he has built a thriving career ever since.

Today, Adam serves as the Director of Education Sales for Shaw Industries for the entire Northeast, a role that draws heavily on the presentation and communication skills he first developed at Westmoreland.

His time at the college also brought personal joy: in 2009, he met his future wife, Kristin, through mutual friends. The two have been inseparable ever since and now share their home with their rescue hound mix, Palmer. Outside of work, Adam enjoys golf, snowboarding, and traveling, and remains active in professional and community organizations, including GRYP, the Chamber of Commerce, AIA, and IFMA. His advice to current students is simple but powerful: embrace opportunities that push you outside your comfort zone and build the network that will carry you forward.

Years later—and at a very different stage of life—it was Adam’s father, Gregory “Chef G” Nemchick, who found his way to Westmoreland. A lifelong dreamer of becoming a chef, he had spent decades in business before finally deciding to pursue his culinary passion after retiring. At age 65, he enrolled in Westmoreland’s Culinary Arts program, entering a professional kitchen environment for the first time and proving that it is never too late to follow your heart.

From 2022 to 2024, Chef G immersed himself in the program, earning certifications as a Certified Culinarian and a Certified Personal Chef while developing both confidence and skill. One of his proudest moments came at age 67, when he walked across the graduation stage—an achievement he credits to the unwavering encouragement of the Culinary Arts faculty. Deeply involved on campus, he served as president of Phi Theta Kappa, a board member of Alpha Sigma Lambda and a member of the National Technical Honor Society.

His post-graduation journey has been equally impressive. Chef G began as a sous chef at Westmoreland Country Club before returning to Westmoreland to teach noncredit classes and manage the Chef’s Bistro. He also founded *The Visiting Culinarian*, offering farm-to-table private dinners, live cooking demonstrations and on-demand chef services throughout Western Pennsylvania. Passionate and creative, he continues to share weekly digital content with a growing audience on social media. Throughout it all, he remains dedicated to professional involvement, serving on the board of the American Culinary Federation’s Laurel Highlands Chapter and engaging with the United States Personal Chef Association.

At home, he shares life with his wife of 49 years, Dianne.

Together, the Nemchicks embody the spirit of lifelong learning, perseverance and the transformative power of community college education. Their story is a warm reminder—especially during the holiday season—that dreams can be fulfilled at any age and that Westmoreland’s impact often extends far beyond one generation.

As Chef G says, success is “a marathon, not a sprint.” And, as Adam reminds today’s students, every opportunity begins with the courage to take that first step.

This year, we celebrate a Westmoreland legacy—one family, two journeys and a shared belief in the promise of new beginnings.

