

# Pirate Shop Grad Update

- Geoff Franklin -



Graduated: Marshfield High School in 2008

Graduated: University of Montana with AAS degree in Welding Technology in 2010

Quote

*"What, and let all my dreams evaporate?"* - Geoff Franklin

Somewhere around the late teens, if you listen close, a person's inner character begins to emerge for the outside world through the vocabulary they choose. To put the above quote in context, Geoff was asked (by me) if he would still take the plunge and go to school out-of-state even if the friend he was going with fizzled out. His telling reaction was immediate, powerful, and articulated perfectly his consciousness that dreams will "disappear like a fist when you open your hand\*" if not acted upon.

Geoff Franklin is a top-notch man. After winning both the county and the state skills contest in welding, he graduated from Marshfield High in 2008 and enrolled in the welding degree program at the University of Montana. While in college he worked after school as a welder by passing the required certification tests.

With his degree in hand he is now working out of the East Helena Local 11 Boilermakers. Geoff recently got off a job building a new power house in North Dakota where he spent much of his time learning rigging signals for cranes and tube welding root passes with TIG. I am proud of Geoff Franklin. Proud of the way he conducts himself as an adult, proud of his persistent desire to excel. There is a great life ahead for him. I'll tell you what ... it seems like yesterday he was a fidgety freshman sitting on the edge of his seat, who couldn't wait to get out in the shop. Thanks Geoff!

Sam Spade in *The Maltese Falcon* (1930)