

Pirate Shop Success Story

Cody Hanson

"I live the life I love and I love the life I live"

---- Willie Dixon, from *Hidden Charms* (1988)

No doubt Willie Dixon did just that, beginning his life of music by playing upright bass in 1939 with the Five Breezes and continuing to the day of his death in 1992. His songs were covered by The Rolling Stones, Styx, The Doors, Led Zeppelin, Foghat, Jimi Hendrix, Cream, Megadeath, and others.

For many of us, when asked what constitutes success and happiness, we often search in a pocket empty of words, shrug, and offer cliches. Useful to some extent because, like stereotypes, they contain kernels of truth. So it goes.



Cody Hanson graduated from Marshfield High School in 2008. He started working in the body shop at Tower Ford before he graduated, and he is still there.

To me success means to be happy in life and always have fun no matter what you're doing. And for those kids about to enter the real world and start working, find something that you love to do and stick with it. Someone once told me if you're happy at your job you'll never work a day in your life. ---- Cody Hanson

Cody Hanson in one word? Meticulous. In the world of "body and fender," from prep fabrication to painting, meticulous separates the amateurs from the pros. Cody is certainly headed to the latter, with plans to get more training in Seattle soon, eventually with the goal of opening his own shop. After watching him design and build aluminum diamond plate accessories for a new Volvo semi while in my class, I knew "this is not your typical student. This guy is going to get very, very good at what he does."

That's Nicolle above and their baby Kyndle. She told me last week that "Cody has always been passionate about what he does. He knows what he wants out of life and will go out of his way to accomplish the things he's started. He's a perfectionist in his work and will keep at it until it is to his satisfaction. He's dedicated to his family and friends and can always be counted on to be there for them. Hard work and dedication are what he's all about. I love you, Cody." Talk about having everything.