



Elizabeth Drake '87

Executive Summary

Elizabeth Drake '87 is a scientist, a woman business owner, a mother and a volunteer. She has made significant accomplishments in the field of Chemistry. She started her professional career as a Research and Process chemist in the chemical and hazardous waste industry and started her own company in 1997. Her company, CS2 was an Aggie 100 award winner – twice. The Aggie 100 identifies, recognizes and celebrates the 100 fastest growing Aggie-owned or Aggie-led businesses in the world.



And the personal side of Elizabeth's story is inspiring. She was diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis at the age of 6. She has been in and out of wheelchairs and hospitals all of her life. While a graduate student at Texas A&M, she was diagnosed with cancer at the age 22. At the age of 35, she was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. She has been on chemotherapy since February 2009, and will probably be on chemotherapy for the rest of her life. So, in addition to being a scientist, a women business owner, a mother and a volunteer, she is an arthritis, cancer, and multiple sclerosis survivor. At the age of 46, she is writing her first novel, a love story.

Elizabeth has achieved excellence as a former student in her professional and personal accomplishments and her contributions have had and will continue to have an impact on future generations of Aggie Women.

Education

Elizabeth received her Bachelor's of Science in Chemistry with a minor in computer Science from East Carolina University. She received her Master's of Science in Chemistry from Texas A&M University in 1987.

Professional Accomplishments

Elizabeth Drake started her professional career as a Research Scientist with Stauffer Chemical Company on the Ship Channel in Houston, Texas. She spent several years as a Process Chemist in the chemical and hazardous waste industry at Chemical Waste Management. In 1997 she started her own company, Compliance Strategies & Solutions, Inc. DBA CS2 Inc., an environmental, engineering and operations service company in Houston, Texas. CS2 is currently providing services to pharmaceutical facilities and more recently, is working on green energy projects. CS2 is an Aggie 100 award winner, ranked at Number 6 in 2005 and Number 36 in 2008.

Dedication to Texas A&M University

Since becoming an Aggie 100 winner, Elizabeth has increased her involvement at Texas A&M. She is a regular guest speaker and presenter to students and seeks opportunities to tell science students that they can start their own businesses, to tell them that the country and the economy need scientists with technology ideas to start businesses and to be a role model for female students and for scientists. She is a charter member of the Women Former Students' Network and a member of the Women's Legacy Fund.

Community Service

Elizabeth has been involved in many community and service activities, including:

- o Volunteer Teacher for Clear Creek Independent School District
- o Teacher of environmental, ecological, and energy classes to elementary and intermediate students
- o Volunteer and Sponsor of Second Chance Pets, a non-profit organization that vaccinates, spays, neuters, and fosters homeless animals and then places them up for adoption.
- o Volunteer as an FCC Licensed Radio Operator to coordinate and provide emergency response for community
- o 5K to 10 mile fun runs that benefit schools, hospitals, and charities
- o Volunteer as a trainer for NASA astronauts to communicate with radio operators while orbiting Earth on the International Space Station.
- o Volunteer and Former Board Member for the Orcas Swim Team.
- o Volunteer for the Houston Water Polo Team and the Lone Star Water Polo Team.
- o Board Member of the University of Houston Small Business Development Council.
- o Member of Air & Waste Management Association.