



• SAVE THE DATE. •

JULY 05 2019

20 YEAR CELEBRATION



MERRY  
*Christmas*

**& HAPPY NEW YEAR**

03

- Under Construction
- Save the Date

05

- Featured: Stephen Dyess

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# Letter from the President

For everyone that is tired of the heat from the longest and hottest summer I can remember, fall is finally here! This is my favorite time of year! Watching football, planting green fields, deer hunting, campfires, Thanksgiving, and you know what's after that! DUCK SEASON! I can't wait! I hope this time of year brings back fond memories for you as it does for me. It is also a time of year to give thanks to God for the blessings in your life. I thank God for each of you that have helped make this company what it is today!

Do you remember me saying in the last newsletter that we were going to get real busy this fall? Well, I was wrong! Fall is here, and we are about to get REAL, REAL busy! The Four Seasons project, Campbell Courthouse, Phoenix Orange Beach, ALSAC Phase Two, East Mississippi State Hospital, Gulf State Learning Campus, and at least a dozen more projects have started and will soon be WIDE OPEN! Also, by the first quarter of next year we will be starting St. Jude Research Center in Memphis and WestGate Condo in Tuscaloosa. Get ready for some OT! In addition to all these projects we are pricing Anniston Federal Courthouse, Phoenix Towers, and Cook Convention Center, all major projects. Thanks for all the hard work from our contract/estimating department in Meridian, Foley, and Gulfport for landing the most projects ever in one year in our company's history! Wow!

Next year on July 5 we are having our 20-year anniversary celebration in Meridian. It will be a paid holiday, just as it was in 1999 when we opened. We are planning on games for the kids, live music, lots of food and drink, and lots of fun for the whole family! I hope everyone can make it. We will put up all out-of-town travelers and make sure we have transportation to and from the hotel. Mark your calendars!

Finally, I hope you all have a great holiday season. Please work safe and watch out for your fellow workers because there is no job or project more important than your safety. Thanks for your hard work!

Robert  
*Robert Smith*

## Under Construction

Campbell Courthouse

Four Seasons | Gulf State Park

Phoenix Orange Beach II

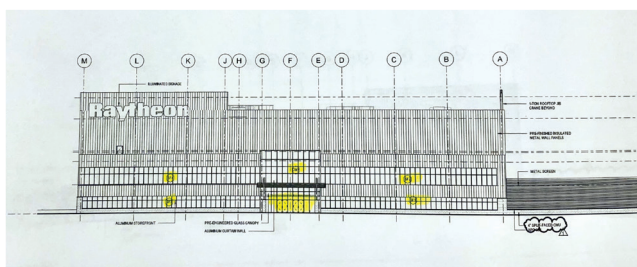


SAVE THE DATE.  
**JULY 05 2019**

**Friday, July 5, 2019**, we will be celebrating our 20th year in business with a big bash at the Meridian office. This fun family event will include a band, jumpy houses for kids, games, a photo booth, great food and drinks, door prizes, etc. We will put all Gulfport and Foley employees up in hotel rooms and provide transportation to and from the hotel to the party. We CANNOT WAIT to celebrate with all of you! Twenty years in business is a great accomplishment, and it could NOT have been done without each and every one of you.

*You all are the reason for the success we have had over the past 20 years, and it's time to CELEBRATE YOU! All employees and their families are invited! So, SAVE THE DATE!*

# On the **Horizon**



**Raytheon**  
Forest, MS



**St. Dominic's**  
Jackson, MS



**WestGate Condo**  
Tuscaloosa, AL

# FEATURED **Stephen Dyess**



Stephen was born and raised in Meridian, MS. He attended Northeast Lauderdale High School, where he was a multisport phenom. Upon graduation, Stephen attended East Central Community College, where he played basketball on scholarship for two years for the mighty Warriors. He transferred to Southern Miss in 2004 and graduated from the Construction Engineering Technology Program in 2007.

His first job out of college was with Roy Anderson Corp. While at Roy Anderson, Stephen played the role of Estimator for five years during the recession. Stephen married his best friend, Cynthia, on March 1, 2008. Construction hit an all-time low while Stephen was at Roy Anderson. Cynthia was pregnant and in her last two years of nursing school, so his main concern was outworking his coworkers to be able to provide stability for his family as layoffs were happening about every Friday. Roy Anderson purchased Brice Building Company to strengthen their portfolio during these trying times, which gave Stephen the opportunity to transfer to Birmingham, AL, and be closer to his family. While in Birmingham, he and Cynthia welcomed their first child, Jake McGowan Dyess.

While he was working for Brice, it was apparent to Stephen that Roy Anderson was going to close the Birmingham office. Being a Meridian native, Stephen always wanted Glass Inc. to bid on his projects, and he developed a relationship with Jack Rush while he was at Roy Anderson. Johnny called and offered Stephen a job. "I interviewed with Robert, and the rest is history." He started working for Glass

Inc. in July of 2012. "I was handed Margaritaville in Bossier City as my first project. Robert trained me every single day during that project. My second job was a handrail project at The University of Alabama. The job was a disaster, and we had no idea that the handrail wasn't coming fabricated. After we ran out of labor I went to Tuscaloosa and worked two 40-hour weekends alongside Billy Jones. This netted Glass Inc. a whopping \$300! Just when I thought I had hit rock bottom, we landed Memorial Hospital. Everyone knows how that job went." Stephen and Cynthia welcomed their second child, Janie Kathryn Dyess – a ray of sunshine during the midst of that hell.

"My favorite project I have worked on is The MAX. The project was very challenging due to a new Pilkington Planar structural glass wall system. No one really understood the tolerances of the system, and after surveys were complete it was apparent that this very high price tag system that was on its way from overseas was not going to fit. I got to work alongside the architect, the engineer, Slay Steel, and most importantly, my mentor, Dale Minchew, to lay out and design solutions. I enjoy getting to show my wife, kids, and friends what we do right here in our hometown."

"My favorite part about working for Glass Inc. is that Robert lets us be family men first." In his spare time, Stephen enjoys coaching his kids in soccer and baseball. He is a member of NorthPark Church, where he volunteers a lot of his time. Spending time with friends and family and playing basketball are also a large part of Stephen's life.



“My favorite part about working for Glass Inc. is that Robert lets us be family men first.”

# Employee Birthdays

## MERIDIAN

### OCTOBER

- 09 Leon Thomas
- 18 Rico McCollum
- 30 Albert Combs

### NOVEMBER

- 08 Jay Thomas
- 09 Trent Mosley
- 10 Buddy Pickard

### 13 Ronnie Majkrzak

- 14 Keith Smith
- 17 Tony James
- 26 Robert Smith

### DECEMBER

- 01 Kristin Kirkpatrick
- 10 Cheryl Hillman
- 16 John Elmore
- 31 Brian Baltzell

## GULFPORT

### NOVEMBER

- 23 Paul Barfield

### DECEMBER

- 16 John Brasher
- 23 Sean Guillotte
- 24 Billy Jones

## FOLEY

### OCTOBER

- 29 Keith Bowe

### NOVEMBER

- 23 Jason Bledsoe
- 23 Jennifer Roberts

### DECEMBER

- 28 Joe Heiden

# Milestones

### 1 YEAR

- Justin Morris
- Trent Mosley

### 2 YEARS

- Tammy Mollett

### 3 YEARS

- Brandon Cooper
- Sean Guillotte
- DJay Ladner

### 5 YEARS

- Mike Crane

### 7 YEARS

- Jennifer Roberts

### 8 YEARS

- Josh Smith

### 9 YEARS

- Wendie Marler

### 10 YEARS

- Rob Smith

### 13 YEARS

- Jack Combest
- Johnny Cumberland

## FEATURED

# Jack Rush



Jack Rush was born in Rochester, NY. His dad was born and raised in Meridian and ended up there due to a job with Xerox. His mother was from Washington, DC. They moved back to Meridian when Jack was 8. He finished high school at Clarkdale, and then went to East Mississippi Community College in Scooba for two years, transferred to Southern Miss, and came back to Meridian.

Jack's first job out of college was as PR Director of the Meridian Chamber of Commerce. He then took a job at the Mississippi Employment Security Commission. Afterward, Jack worked in manufacturing for several years until there were several plant closures. Johnny's brother-in-law contacted Jack about a job opening at Glass Inc. He came and interviewed with Robert and Johnny and then started on March 1, 2007. He graduated from high school with Jay Thomas, played ball with Rico, and knew Mitchell growing up, so he knew what he was getting into.



"The interesting thing about working here is that my dad worked in this building for 20 years. I used to come to this building when I was a kid and help my dad with inventory. At the time it was called Carware and owned by Billy Campbell."

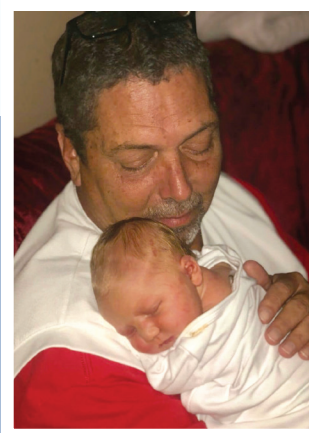
Jack has been married to Sheri for over 30 years, and together they have three daughters and five grandchildren. "My least favorite job was Fannie Williams School in the greater New Orleans area. As Robert would say, we had to put on a blitz. We were down there three weekends in a row changing out the glass. Everyone from contract to field was down there involved with the project. Robert was on a scaffold caulking and changing out glass. It was a great learning experience, but still my least favorite job."

"The Golden Nugget in Biloxi, MS, which was a remodel job, was a lot of fun because of the high-end decorating that was involved. Phoenix Gulf Shores was really the first condo job that I was Project Manager on. It was very educational. So much of the work I do is down on the coast, and it is nice having the knowledge of the Foley staff – Joe Heiden, Jason Bledsoe, and Daniel Fogel. They are great at what they do and fun to work with. Seeing a condo go from the ground up is pretty enjoyable. A huge plus about working here is the people, and if you do your job it does allow you some freedom. Work can be really hard and stressful, but also a lot of fun. We like to hunt and golf and are very family oriented."

In his spare time, Jack is a big softy and loves to be with his kids and grandkids. He also loves to deer hunt and is a die-hard Southern Miss fan. SMTTT!

## Birth Announcement

Jack and Sheri Rush welcomed granddaughter  
Aubrey Lynn Crane on September 19, 2018.



## FEATURED

# Mike Crane

Mike was born at Anderson Hospital in Meridian and raised in Stonewall. He went to school in Quitman and graduated in 1986. His father was born in Stonewall, and his mother was born and raised in Meridian. Mike has been married to his wife, Cheryl, for 24 years and together they have one daughter, Tessa, who is 19.

Mike has done everything from gardening to drywalling and roofing. His first job in high school was hauling pulpwood. Parts of his family were in the forestry and logging business. After high school, he spent five years offshore. "Once I came home from working offshore I met Cheryl. I grew up in that life because my dad worked offshore, and I just knew I wanted to take a different route."

“*My favorite job so far has been the Airbus project in Mobile, partly because of the Merit Award we received from ABC.*”

"In 1993, Robert gave me my first job in the glass business at Mississippi Paint and Glass. During the interview with him, he picked up a tape measure and told me to measure the desk. I got it right, so he hired me." Mike's role at Mississippi Paint and Glass was as a helper on a truck working with Mitchell, Dale, and Brian Baltzell. Mike was working in Foley at Mississippi Paint and Glass up until Robert left.

After Mississippi Paint and Glass closed, Mike started his own glass shop in Foley, operating it until 2008, when the economy crashed. It mainly did small commercial and residential work. Mike moved back to Meridian in 2008 and went to work in commercial door and hardware for about five years. "I ran into Robert at a Russell Christian Academy football game, and he told me to come visit him, so I did, and he offered me a job. I started working at Glass Inc. in 2013. I started as a Project Manager in the Meridian office and moved back down to Foley in 2016 to run the office once Jay Lauderdale left."

"My favorite job so far has been the Airbus project in Mobile, partly because of the Merit Award we received from ABC."

In his spare time, Mike enjoys going to concerts, woodworking, and fishing. Right now all of his spare time is being spent remodeling the house he and Cheryl just bought.

# ABC Merit Awards



**On November 16**, we had a great night celebrating at the 2018 ABC Merit Awards! We walked away with two Gold Awards for our work at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience and Singing River Hospital. We walked away with two Silver Awards for our work at Mobile Federal Courthouse and St. Jude ALSAC.

## In the **Spotlight**



### **Building Construction Science Career Fair**

Robert, Justin, and Kristen Smith attended the Building Construction Science Career Fair at Mississippi State on September 27. Robert is on the board and helped start the program at Mississippi State, and Justin was in the program's first graduating class.

### **Lauderdale County School District Career Fair**

Justin Smith and Stephen Dyess attended the Lauderdale County School District Career Fair on October 1.



### **STEP Award**

We are proud to announce that we won Platinum in the ABC STEP Awards. This award recognizes excellence in leadership and outstanding achievement in construction safety.

### **'Tis the Season**

The estimating department helped Mitchell Moffett track down the monster in his backyard.

