

# George Schutte

George Schutte, President of Ranahan Solutions, LLC, lived at Boys & Girls Harbor from ages 12 to 17. Like most children who come to the Harbor, George was missing structure and discipline in his life. George said the lessons he took from the Harbor laid a strong foundation for the rest of his life.

The Harbor established a sense of community and family for George. "There was a community of adults and 50 or more brothers who were willing to care for me," Schutte said. George said the house parents and staff were ever-present, offering guidance at opportune times; later when he had his own family, he realized this was effective parenting. He said the Harbor modeled the way to integrate, belong, and be a productive member in the community.

While living at the Harbor, George learned there were consequences for his actions. While the word consequence usually has a negative connotation, George points out consequences can also be positive. "The Harbor taught me I am not a product of my circumstances, rather I am a product of my decisions," George said.

Schutte learned the value and reward of hard work during his time at the Harbor. George credits Colin Rae, the Boys & Girls Harbor Campus Director, with sharing wisdom he continues to practice. "We were on a work day and I was cutting corners. Coach Rae pulled me aside and said, 'Schutte, there is no easy way. The only way to get things done is to buckle down and do it.'" He said this conversation was a defining moment in his life. "If Coach hadn't said that to me, who would have?"

George left the Harbor in high school and returned home, though difficult to return to his home environment, he did not simply learn to follow the rules at the Harbor, the Harbor helped him learn how to make good decisions in everyday life.

George Schutte has been married to his wife Pam, an educator and school psychologist, for 22 years. He has a daughter and a stepson along with several grandchildren. He and his wife operate a ranch in Llano, Texas. His passion for agriculture was developed at the Harbor through participation in the agriculture program. George earned a BA from Angelo State University and a MBA from Texas Tech University.

His career in logistics for the oil and gas industry has taken him to more than 50 countries and allowed him to live several years in Africa and Asia. In 2014, he founded Ranahan Solutions, LLC which provides international and domestic logistics to Upstream and Downstream oil and gas industry.

"The Harbor was the closest home I ever had. It is the only place from my young life that I lived for any significant amount of time. Thirty years later--and I still know the address and phone number by heart. This was my home and still is for many," Schutte said.

George continues to support Harbor by working with current residents involved with the agriculture program. He is glad to share more detail about his experiences at Boys & Girls Harbor.