

# Miguel Vargas

## Material Speed Designs, Founder

**AGE:** 29

### **WHERE WERE YOU BORN?**

Fayetteville, NC

### **HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN CHARLOTTE AREA?**

11 years

### **TELL US A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT YOU?**

I am a Project Engineer with a passion for cars and getting my hands dirty. I enjoy solving problems, which is why I decided to go into Mechanical Engineering and then start my business, Material Speed Designs. Through my job, I am constantly working on making things work and finding solutions. I've been lucky enough to connect those skills with problems I've noticed in the car community: lack of quality products at a reasonable price. Material Speed Designs addresses that problem and poses a new challenge for me to really test my own innovative skills and entrepreneurship. In my free time, you can usually find me spending time with family, friends, and my fiancée.

### **DURING YOUR TIME VOLUNTEERING FOR A COMMUNITY ACTIVITY OR PROJECT, WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT?**

My most recent volunteer opportunity was through church. I volunteered for the security team and had the privilege of interacting with a very diverse group of people every week. There isn't just one moment that was memorable, as the experience as a whole was very fulfilling. Each week there were tons of people coming together in faith no matter where they came from or what they were dealing with that week. That was really cool to experience regularly.

### **IN YOUR OPINION, HOW DO YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY? PLEASE BE AS DETAILED AS YOU CAN.**

I serve the car community through my business, but I serve the greater community through donating to the Colorectal Cancer Society with every purchase through my website. My aunt passed from colon cancer in 2020 six months after diagnosis. The donations are not only meant to help those suffering from cancer, but also to contribute to resources of families that lost their loved ones too soon the way that I did.

### **PLEASE LET US KNOW ANY AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS YOU'VE RECEIVED IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER:**

- ASME Section VIII Audit, Passed with no marks, (My first major company audit)
- When starting my business, the vendor I used loved the idea so much they did a article on me and the design.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES OR INTEREST?**

I enjoy going for long drives in my Mustang and traveling whenever I can, especially to Florida to visit my family. You can often find me with my fiancée exploring new spots in uptown Charlotte or taking our dog to one of the dog bars in the area. Lucky Dog Bark and Brew is our favorite!

### **WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE QUOTE THAT YOU STAND BY?**

"You must always remember that to lead, one must first learn to follow." -Haile Selassie

**WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN 5 YEARS? 10 YEARS?**

In five years, I hope to have grown Material Speed Designs by adding new products that will serve even more people in the car community. In 10 years, I hope to have continued growing Material Speed Designs. I also hope to have a family and to share the passions I have with them the way that my own family did with me.

**CAN YOU SHARE ONE THING THAT IS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?**

One of my bucket list items is to go deep-water scuba diving in the ocean. I've always really loved the beach and the beauty of the ocean. I would love to get a close look at what we don't see when we're swimming in the tide.

**WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU USED YOUR PASSPORT?**

I last used my passport in 2018 to travel to England, Germany, and France with friends. We had a great time but if my feet could talk, they would have had some choice words for me. We saw everything!

**WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF THAT NO ONE KNOWS?**

I'm a huge anime buff.

**WHO IS YOUR HERO?**

My parents.

**WHAT WAS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?**

The Bible

**WHAT WAS THE LAST MOVIE YOU SAW?**

Black Widow

**WHAT WAS THE LAST CONCERT YOU SAW?**

It's been a while now, so I don't even remember.

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