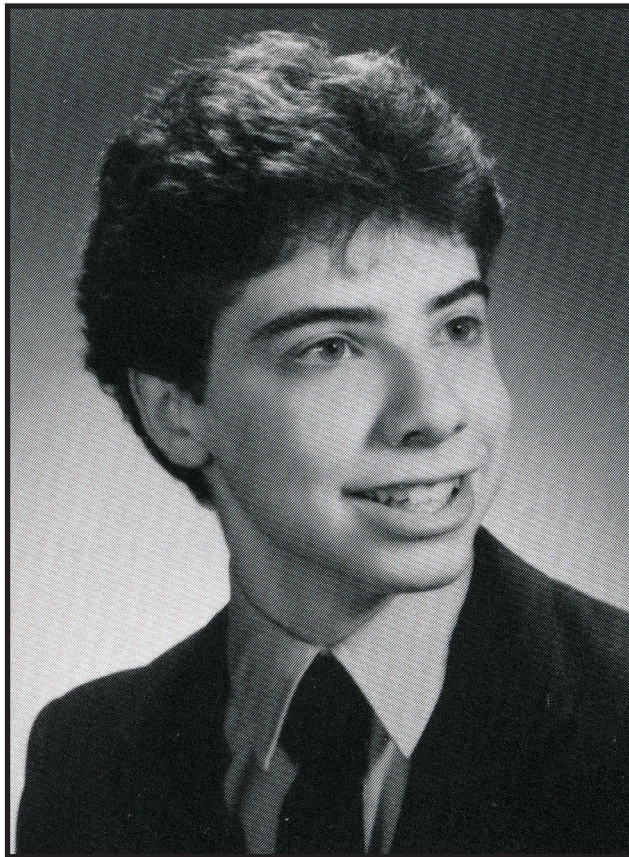


Watchung Hills Regional High School

Hall of Fame

2008 Induction Ceremony • Saturday, April 12, 2008



Adam Riess

Class of 1988

Adam graduated from Watchung Hills Regional High School in 1988 as Adam Riess. He is now Dr. Adam Riess and is a professor of Astronomy and Physics at Johns Hopkins University and a senior member of the Science Staff at the Space and Telescope Science Institute, both in Baltimore, where he lives with his wife, Nancy and daughter, Gabrielle.

Adam received his Bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1992 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He followed that by earning his Ph.D. in astrophysics from Harvard University in 1996.

The bottom line is that Adam looks up at the stars and heavens in a different way than the rest of us. He can enjoy their sheer beauty as most do, but he also studies the heavens in a way that most of us clearly don't understand. His research involves measurements of the cosmological framework with supernovae (exploding stars) and cepheids (pulsating stars), often using the Hubble Telescope to facilitate his research.

In 1998, Dr. Riess led a study which provided the first evidence that the expansion of the universe was accelerating and filled with dark energy. This study resulted in one of many awards that Dr. Riess has achieved, the "Breakthrough Discovery of the Year" awarded by *Science* magazine. Further research and studies on the acceleration of the expansion of the universe enabled Adam to share the prestigious Shaw Prize with two other notable astrophysicists. We thank our stars for Adam and welcome him into the WHRHS Hall of Fame.