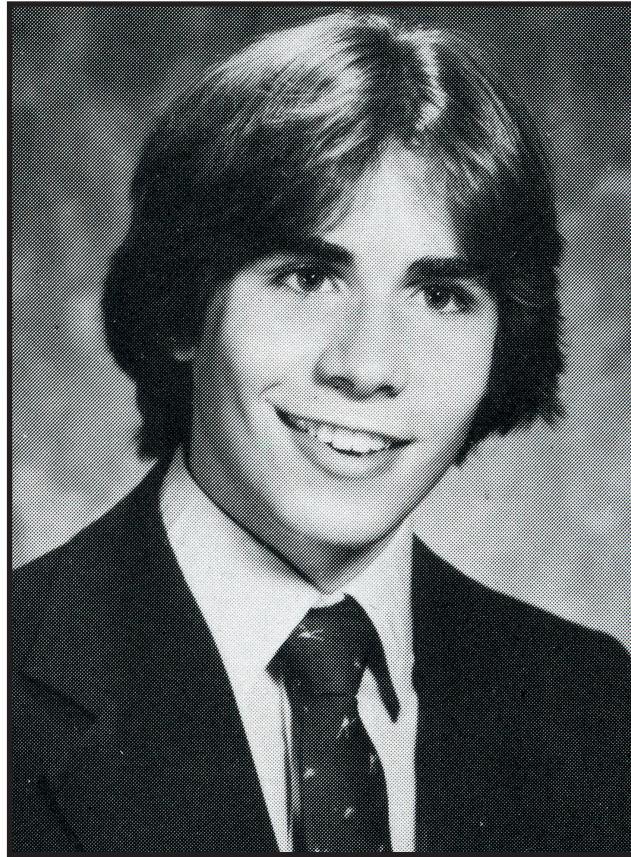


Watchung Hills Regional High School

Hall of Fame

2008 Induction Ceremony • Saturday, April 12, 2008



Kevin O'Brien

Class of 1981

We all wish that we could make a living doing what we love to do. That's what we encourage and hope that our children will do. But alas, that is not always the case - but it has been the case for Kevin O'Brien who graduated from Watchung Hills Regional High School in 1981.

At some point during his high school years, Kevin confided in one of his art teachers, Ms. Kamiski, that he really enjoyed only his art classes in school. He did a number of illustrations for the school newspaper and yearbooks. Ms. Kamiski recognized his talent and encouraged him to pursue it as far as he wanted. Being parents, Kevin's Mom and Dad, encouraged their son, but at the same time wondered how he would ever pay the bills as an artist.

As with many artists, Kevin's early years were a struggle, but he was fortunate to find that intersection where opportunity meets talent. Kevin moved to Los Angeles and connected with the cartoon needs on a new FOX show named, "The Simpsons"... Talk about good fortune meeting good talent!

Since that time, Kevin has worked on numerous television projects and recently has moved into feature films. His credits include, "Ice Age," "Iron Giant," "The Incredibles" and "Ratatouille." Kevin was nominated for an Annie Award for both the "Iron Giant" and "The Incredibles," and received the prestigious award for "The Incredibles" recognizing him as the best story board artist.

Kevin lives in El Cerrito, California with his wife and young daughter. Hopefully, Kevin's story will inspire current and future WHRHS students to find what they love and to pursue their dreams.