

Vita

Zachary Todd Kitts was born in Decatur, Alabama on the dreary afternoon of February 14, 1973. His life of the first three years has been beyond recollection until moving to Soddy Daisy, Tennessee. At age 10 his family moved to a farm located in Hixson, Tennessee, where chickens and black Angus became the first and foremost pets. In the fall of 1991 Zachary began his college career toward a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. During his undergraduate trek he was inducted into Pi Tau Sigma and Tau Beta Pi. Before graduating with honors in 1996, DR Houghton mentioned, "... you're nothing but pocket change with a BS..." Eight months after obtaining a BS degree he began working on MS degree in Mechanical Engineering at Virginia Polytechnic University and State University. While employed by Tennessee Valley Authority's Sequoyah Nuclear Plant as a Licensing Engineer he finished his MS degree from Virginia Tech.