

Drew Vaughn

I grew up on a chicken and turkey farm in rural west-central Illinois. I got a scholarship to attend Augustana College where I ran Track and got my Bachelors degree in Swedish, English, and Political Science. I then went on to Loyola University Chicago School of Law – also on scholarship, and ultimately studied international law at Oxford University. After law school, I won case after case, made partner by 30, was made a Professor of Law, and was named one of the Top 10 lawyers in Illinois. Then I sold my law firm and retired from law at the ripe old age of 38.

Most lawyers come from a wealthy background and get their clients from connections at Mommy and Daddy's country club. People were pretty confused when some dude from a chicken farm was getting all their clients and winning all the cases. So they asked me how I got so many clients so fast. I told them that I understood marketing better than they did (I have an MBA in Marketing/Strategy from Notre Dame and studied data analytics at MIT) and that I understood coding to make that marketing work (I learned that in 4-H).

So judges (from the trial level to the Supreme Court level) started asking me to help them with the digital marketing for their elections and lawyers started asking me to help them get clients. The next thing I knew, I owned a marketing company. That company has now won Ad of the Year twice, has been named one of the 5 Most Innovative marketing agencies in the United States, and I have been named one of the 100 Most Influential Marketers in the World.

I then went on to study cybersecurity, ultimately earning a ranking of being in the top 5% of hackers in the world. Using that background in law, business, marketing, and cybersecurity I then launched an Artificial Intelligence company in Florida that is growing rapidly. I maintain an active presence in the Illinois State Bar Association, and I was one of the primary drafters of Illinois' artificial intelligence policy.