BACKGROUND

Russell was born on November 18, 1964 in Wausau, Wisconsin. He was a lifetime resident of the Town of Easton who graduated from the D.C. Everest School District. After a long and courageous battle with cancer, that ended on March 12, 2002, he is survived by his wife, Jennifer, his father, Jack, two sisters, Barb (Russell) Lambrecht and Sue (John) Christensen, a brother, Tony (Rainie), a nephew, Jack, and four nieces, Jacklynn, Kaylee, Hanna, and Karley. His mother, Beverly, preceded him in death.

During his lifetime Russell’s family was most important to him. He married his wife, Jenny, on June 30, 2001 at St. Florian’s Catholic Church in Hatley. Although their time together was short, he was comforted and encouraged through his illness by her love and support.

Russ was a papermaker at Weyerhaeuser for eight years, and served as vice president of the Papermaker’s Union. He was active in the Easton-Hewitt-Wausau Lions Club, having served as president and treasurer of the Club, and as an Eye Bank transporter for many years. He was also active in the Wisconsin Valley Fair and the Market Animal Sale Committee where he served as the weigh-in chairman. He was a former 4-H Club leader and president, as well as a former vice president and president of the FFA. During high school he was a member of the wrestling team and orchestra, and was named to the Who’s Who in High School student’s listing.

Russell was an avid outdoor enthusiast. He enjoyed being in the woods, snowmobiling, four-wheeling, camping, hunting, and fishing, and has several trophy mounts to his credit.

All who knew and loved Russell Sliwicki during his short life will greatly miss him and his quick wit. He was a gentle and loving family man, a thoughtful community leader, and a kind and caring friend. This scholarship fund was established to keep his spirit and passion alive in our community for present and future generations.

To honor Russ’s memory, and the qualities of his life that defined him, the Russell Sliwicki Memorial Scholarship Fund was established within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin shortly after his death. Initial memorial gifts were received from family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues, along with the Easton-Hewitt-Wausau Lions Club. The fund will now award scholarships annually in his name to graduating seniors of D.C. Everest Senior High School who wish to pursue a career in an environmental or agriculturally related field.
**Criteria for Selection**
To be considered for the Russell Sliwicki Memorial Scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a graduating senior from D.C. Everest Senior High School;
- Planning to pursue a post-secondary education in an environmental or agriculturally related field of study;
- Provide evidence of a commitment to the above through their coursework, community involvement, service or club activities.

Evidence of other circumstances such as family, financial, or personal challenges, which make an applicant more worthy of consideration may also be provided.

**Application Process**
Students are encouraged to apply online by visiting the Community Foundation’s website at [www.cfoncw.org/grants/scholarships.cfm](http://www.cfoncw.org/grants/scholarships.cfm). Click on the “Apply Online” button to reach the online application portal and begin the registration and application process. Completed applications must be submitted by **February 1** to be considered by the Selection Committee.

A selection committee, appointed by the Community Foundation, will review the applications and announce the scholarship recipient at the D.C. Everest Senior Awards Ceremony, which is usually held in May. Information will be held in the confidence of the Selection Committee, the Community Foundation’s board of directors, and its staff.

**Payment**
Payment of scholarship funds will be made by the Community Foundation directly to the college or university the scholarship recipient is attending. The student must provide proof of registration for their first two semesters of post-secondary instruction to the Community Foundation office. The scholarship will be applied toward the student’s second semester tuition costs.

**Donations Accepted**
The Russell Sliwicki Memorial Scholarship Fund was established within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin in 2002, to award scholarships annually in his name to graduating seniors of D.C. Everest Senior High School who wish to pursue a career in an environmental or agriculturally related field. Initial funding was received through memorial gifts received from family and friends along with the Easton-Hewitt-Wausau Lions Club.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to this fund at any time and in any amount. Make checks payable to the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, with a notation on the memo line that the gift should be directed to the Sliwicki Scholarship Fund. The Sliwicki family will be notified of your thoughtful gift.

Questions or requests for further information can be directed to the Community Foundation office.