

SHARI K. WIDMARK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Shari K. Widmark
October 23, 1960 - August 10, 2001

Strength and courage aren't always measured in medals and victories. They are measured in struggles we overcome. The strongest people are not always the people who win, but the people who don't give up when they lose. Ashley Hodgeson

Shari Widmark was many things – a daughter, a sister, a wife, and a friend. But, perhaps most profoundly, Shari was a mother. Her life was her children – sewing homemade costumes, throwing extravagant birthday parties, watching and encouraging her children while playing sports. She had a fiercely competitive nature, and was the self-appointed grammar police.

Even after being diagnosed with cancer, Shari refused to let her illness draw her attention from her children, attending games up until the end of her illness. After eight years of battling cancer, Shari passed away on August 10, 2001.

Shari's family established this fund in December of 2001 to honor Shari and her love of sports and competitiveness.

PURPOSE

To provide scholarship and recognition to a graduating Wausau East High School varsity athlete who demonstrates the characteristics of a team player with a passion for the game.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Apply online by visiting www.cfoncw.org. Click on "Grants & Scholarships" / "Scholarships" / "Apply Online Now" to reach the online application portal and begin the registration and application process. If this is your first visit to the site, you will need to "Create an Account." If this is a return visit, enter your email address and password. Choose the appropriate application from the menu.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15

YOUR APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:

- Essay describing your favorite high school sports moment, that reflects your characteristics as a team player with "a passion for the game"
- List of extracurricular activities (downloadable form online)
- Two reference letters – including one from your varsity coach

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

- Graduating senior from Wausau East High School, who has participated in high school varsity athletics
- Has demonstrated the characteristics of a team player, with "spunk," (or passion for the game)
- Accepted for enrollment in a post-secondary institution of higher education

The Selection Committee will review applications using the following:

- Student demonstrates the characteristics of a team player, with "spunk" (or passion for the game), through their essay response to the following question: "Describe your favorite high school sports moment that reflects your characteristics as a team player with "spunk," (or demonstrates your passion for the game), and most clearly demonstrates your qualifications for this award."
- Quality of references

If further evaluation is needed, the committee will consider:

- Record of extracurricular activities

Academic achievement and financial need will not be deciding factors in the selection process.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The recipient will be announced at the Wausau East High School senior awards ceremony in the spring.

PAYMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

The recipient will receive a congratulatory letter from the Community Foundation after the awards ceremony, instructing them on how to receive their scholarship funding. The student must provide proof of registration to the Community Foundation office for payment to be initiated. The Foundation will make payment directly to the college or university the student is attending.