

TOM & MARILYN KRAEMER SCHOLARSHIP



"Tom was a self-driven businessman and very proud of being a business owner, and he always encouraged others to own their own business," Liz Kraemer said.

"Marilyn was always by his side; if he was somewhere, she was there, too," Paul Gassner added.

Kraemer and Gassner reminisce about Tom and Marilyn Kraemer, successful funeral home business owners in our community. As family members, Liz and Paul chose to create a scholarship in memory of Tom and Marilyn Kraemer that gives five local graduating seniors financial aid in pursuing the field of science.

"We decided we wanted to give back to the four communities where they had their funeral home businesses: Athens, Edgar, Marathon, and Wausau," Liz continued.

Gassner stated, "We were very sensitive to the communities Tom practiced in... They were very private individuals, yet they were very close to each other and close to the community."

"They were an inspirational couple their entire lives, and any challenges they faced, they went through together, Paul concluded.

The Tom & Marilyn Kraemer Scholarship was established with the Community Foundation in 2023.

PURPOSE

To award scholarships annually in memory of Tom and Marilyn Kraemer, to graduating seniors from Athens, Edgar, Marathon, and Wausau East and West High Schools, who plan to pursue a degree in the sciences.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for consideration, students must complete the general application for scholarships at their high school. Contact the guidance office for application materials and the deadline.

ELIGIBILITY

- Athens, Edgar, Marathon, and Wausau High School graduating senior
- Pursuing a science degree; with preference given to mortuary science

CRITERIA FOR RECEIPT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

- Student must earn a 3.0 GPA or greater in their first semester of post-graduate studies

ANNOUNCEMENT

The recipients will be announced at the high school's 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 and a transcript of their first semester grades (proving they earned a 3.0 GPA or greater) 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.