

# MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS



## **American Legion Post 47 – Edward A. Manthey Scholarship**

Ed was born and raised in Portage, and graduated from PHS in 1936. Ed was enlisted in the Army from 1940-1945 and served in the Philippines, earning the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. After the war, Ed became a deputy sheriff and was later elected Columbia County Sheriff. In 1950, he joined the Portage Fire Department where he served until 1976 retiring as a Lieutenant. Ed was active in the local American Legion and VFW, and he originated the American Legion Post 47 scholarship when he was serving as the Adjutant. Ed and his wife, Tabea, were married for 48 years when he died in 1993.



## **Wayne Bartels Memorial Scholarships**

Wayne graduated from PHS in 1968. While in high school, Wayne was class president and played on the varsity tennis, basketball, and football teams. He then played football at UW – Stevens Point. He devoted his entire career to teaching and mentoring junior high school students in Portage – first as an English teacher, assistant junior high school principal, and ending his career as the middle school principal. Wayne died in an accident in 2006.



## **George F. Beasley Memorial Scholarship**

George first visited Portage in 1958 when visiting his then girlfriend's family cottage near Swan Lake. After graduating from Elgin Community College and Northern Illinois University, he worked in manufacturing before becoming a State Farm Insurance agent for 32 years. Upon retiring, George and his now wife, Nancy, moved to Portage permanently. He has a passion for giving back to the community where he lives - beginning in Sycamore, Illinois, and now in Portage. George was active in the Rotary Club, the Portage Presbyterian Church, the Positively Portage Community Charitable Trust, and was instrumental in founding the Portage Service Club Association that provides vision and collaborative leadership for projects to enhance life in Portage which includes the Splash Pad and the new Pauquette Park Pavilion. Inspiration for this scholarship is provided by his grandson who has disabilities and George's sincere love of people, plus his personal campaign to encourage everyone to reach their full potential. George died in July 2020.



## **Shane Daniel Biech Memorial Scholarship**

Shane was born and raised in Portage and graduated in 1986. He was a four-year member of FFA, a member of the Caledonia 4-H Club, and a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Portage. Shane was tragically killed in 1988 when he was hit by a car. Shane's family created this scholarship to keep his memory alive by supporting a student who desires a career in agriculture or a related field.



## **Llewellyn Breese Memorial Scholarships**

Llewellyn was born on May 13, 1833, in North Wales, England. The family came to America in April 1846 and settled on a farm in the Town of Randolph. Llewellyn's education went through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. When health problems ended his farming career, Llewellyn accepted the position of Under Sheriff of Columbia County in 1858. In 1860, Llewellyn was elected County Treasurer (held for 6 years). Llewellyn was elected as Secretary of State for four years. Upon expiration of his last term, he became the first president of the City Bank of Portage, then president of Portage Iron Works, and also served as president of the board of education. Llewellyn was married to Mary Evans of Milwaukee on June 9, 1863, and they had seven children. He died at the age of 90.



## **Kermit C. Cawley Memorial Scholarship**

Kermit graduated from PHS in 1932 and was a lifetime supporter of Portage athletics. He participated on the basketball and football teams, and was a member of many academic clubs. He played tennis and golf regularly, and was an avid fan of the Badgers, Packers, and Braves/Brewers. Kermit was born on January 3, 1915, in Marquette, Michigan. He was married to Phyllis Horton on May 4, 1941, before serving in World War II as a Staff Sergeant. Kermit was employed by the Milwaukee Railroad for over 34 years and with his mother-in-law, Myrtle Horton, established the first A&W root beer stand in Portage (operated from 1939 to 1976). Kermit died in December 2006 at the age of 91.



### **Joe Cleary Memorial Athletic Scholarship**

Baseball was Joe's favorite sport in high school. He had many conference honors, on the roster with several local baseball teams, and pitched on the Army baseball touring team in Europe. Joe served in the Army from 1958-1961. Upon his return, he was an employee at Research Products Corporation for 37 years. When it was evident to Joe that the brain cancer was incurable, he expressed a desire to establish a scholarship. He wanted to give back to the school that provided an excellent education to his daughters (Patty and Peggy – 1981 & 1983 PHS graduates and teachers at

Middleton and Poynette, respectively) and continues now with his grandchildren. Joe lost his battle with brain cancer on May 20, 2008.



### **Colette's Challenge Memorial Scholarship**

Colette Carr-Larson taught at John Muir Elementary School, Woodridge Primary School, and Portage Junior High School for four years until her death in 2004. She was a graduate of Madison East High School, Bennington College in Vermont, and UW Madison in elementary education. Colette was the first female page in the United States Capitol. This scholarship is in honor of Colette because of her devotion to students that struggled academically. Co-workers of Colette described her as caring, committed, dedicated, creative, and inspiring.

### **William T. Comstock Memorial Scholarship**

Mr. Comstock was born in Iowa in 1895 and moved to Portage. In 1942, he assumed the ownership and management of the Portage Daily Register. The local newspaper won many awards through the Inland Daily Press Association - among them were typographical excellence, coverage of news of local government, public relations effort on behalf of the craft, news and editorial support of programs of civic advancement. In 1952, W.T. was convinced that there was a place in our community for an AM radio stations - WPDR went on the air. In his spare time, he was a member of the Portage Curling Club. Mr. Comstock and two other local businessmen incorporated the Portage Industrial Development Corporation to build and promote the city's first industrial park. It was the start of Portage's industrial expansion in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



### **Devine Family Foundation Scholarship**

Ray Devine graduated from Portage High School in 1940. Ray served in World War II, graduated from UW Madison, raised four sons with his wife of 57 years, and was a very successful businessman. Ray was raised on a farm near Portage, and although he lived most of his adult life in Madison, his heart never left Portage. Ray was a true believer in education and established this scholarship to help students that may not otherwise be able to attend college as he had done.



### **Arthur & Eleanor Docter Memorial Scholarship**

Arthur was born in Stetsonville and graduated from Medford High School in 1934. He married Eleanor Long in 1941, had four children, and celebrated 73 years together. Arthur served as a corporal in the Army Air Force from 1942-1945 serving in England and France. He managed the Termogas Company in Portage, and was a member of the Portage Elks Lodge and Portage Country Club. Arthur passed away in September 2014.

Eleanor was born in Little Black, and graduated from Medford High School in 1935. She graduated from Taylor County Normal School and taught school for five years. Eleanor was a member of the Women's Civic League, the Portage Elkettes, and Catholic Women's Club. She passed away in December 2017.



### **Charles J. Drury Memorial Scholarship**

Charles graduated from PHS in 1928 where he was involved in football, debate team, newspaper editor, junior class president, and prom king. Charles graduated from the UW Madison Law School. During his legal profession, Charles served as Portage city attorney and Columbia County district attorney. Charles established a scholarship for a student attending college in preparation for law school, or a student majoring in education.



### **W.R. "Dietz" & Marion Eulberg Memorial Scholarship**

William R. Eulberg was a 1920 PHS graduate where he was very active in football, baseball, and basketball, and continued his involvement in sports by bowling and curling until his death in 1979. While playing "Dietz of Cameron Dam" as a child, he played the part of John Dietz who fought the Federal takeover of his privately held dam. The nickname "Dietz" stayed with him. In 1929, Dietz started Eulberg's Clothing Store in downtown Portage, and was involved in Elks, Chamber of Commerce, and St. Mary's Catholic Church. He was the chairman of the drive to build the Breese indoor pool. In 1977, Dietz started a scholarship because he believed in getting an excellent education.



Marion (Rock) Eulberg was a PHS graduate in 1926, and spent many hours volunteering at Divine Savior Hospital as well as helping set up its first gift shop. Marion was a stay-at-home mom raising four children (Janet, Suzanne, David, and Peter). After her sudden death in 1976, her husband, Dietz, started a scholarship for an individual going into the medical field.

**Earl Galle Memorial Music Scholarship**



Earl Galle (original Swiss spelling was Galli until changed to Galle in 1920) was born in 1917 in Monroe. He started taking trombone lessons from a neighbor, and during his senior year, he joined a popular dance band and traveled Wisconsin and Illinois playing on weekends in large dance pavilions. Earl joined the Army and continued playing trombone in the Army band. Earl became a full-time musician playing with a number of big bands in the Midwest. He met Emaline Reinmann, a schoolteacher from Monroe, and decided he needed to stay closer to home. Earl acquired an interest in photography while in the military. In 1947, Earl purchased Downie Art Studio in Portage (n/k/a Galley Studio - a "y" was added to aid in pronunciation) but continued playing music by forming numerous small local bands. His daughter, Linda, is an elementary music teacher and guest pianist with the Gainesville Symphony Orchestra. This scholarship is intended for a student who shares Earl's love for music.

**Alvina V. Haertel Memorial Scholarship**

In honor of her mother, Alvina, Lillian Haertel established a scholarship in 1974. Lillian was a 1905 graduate of UW Madison in education, and was a science teacher in Oconomowoc and Elroy.



**Joshua Allen Halverson Memorial Scholarships**

Joshua graduated from PHS in 2008, and was involved in Building Trades, Tech Ed, and FFA. He graduated from U.S. Army Basic & Advanced Individual Training in 2009. Joshua passed away in an auto accident on the way to drill for the U.S. Army Reserves in 2010. He loved the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. This scholarship was created to honor Joshua's generous spirit and willingness to help others.



**William Hansen Memorial Scholarship**

William "Bill" Hansen was a cherished member of the Portage community whose impact extends far beyond his years among us. Bill's legacy intertwined with the heart of Portage, marked by his unwavering dedication and profound contributions, notably in his esteemed role as Plant Manager at AMPI. Throughout his tenure at AMPI, Bill held various management positions, culminating in his critical role as Plant Manager in Portage. His vision and dedication were for the company's success and community prosperity he called home. Recognizing the importance of skilled workers in the trades and maintenance fields, Bill held a heartfelt wish: to bridge the gap between education and employment for high school graduates of the Trades, Technology, and Engineering Curriculum and future college students pursuing a career as a Maintenance Technician. Bill's unwavering belief these programs could serve as a beacon, guiding talented individuals toward fulfilling careers at companies like AMPI. His vision was rooted in providing opportunities for local talent while meeting the crucial needs of industries requiring skilled workers. Bill's passion for nurturing talent and fostering growth in these trades exemplified his commitment to AMPI and the community. His legacy extends beyond the achievements and milestones attained during his tenure; it encompasses a legacy of mentorship, guidance, and a profound commitment to workforce advancement and the community. Bill's aspirations for graduates to find purposeful employment at AMPI reflect his deep-rooted dedication to the industry he served and the individuals who would carry forth his vision. The William Hansen Memorial Scholarship represents his testament to his unwavering commitment to cultivating a future generation of skilled professionals in the trades and Maintenance Technicians. Bill's enduring legacy is one of empowerment, where his vision continues to shape pathways for aspiring individuals, igniting their journey toward meaningful and prosperous careers in these vital fields.



**Midge Graham & Russell Jorns Memorial Scholarship**

Russ & Midge (Graham) Jorns were born and raised in Portage. They became high school sweethearts while attending Portage High School in the mid 1940s. Russ was on the football and basketball teams, and Midge was a cheerleader. Col. Jorns had a 25-year decorated military career in the U.S. Army & Corps of Engineers while Midge had a long rewarding career as an elementary school teacher.



**Harold A. Johnson Memorial Scholarship**

Harold Johnson grew up on the family farm in Caledonia and was a 1948 graduate of Portage High School. During high school, he was involved in boxing and enjoyed hunting and fishing in his free time. Harold worked until retirement at the Portage Post Office and then worked for another 18 years at Adesa Auto Auction. His most important priorities were his faith, family and friends. In January 2019, Harold died due to a senseless act of violence. This scholarship was created to honor this man who made such an impact on so many people in Portage and the surrounding area.

**W. Horace Johnston Agricultural Scholarship**

Johnston was involved in the agricultural industry in some form or another. The scholarship was established in 1989 to be awarded to a student pursuing a career in agriculture, life science or a related field.



**Marjorie Kerr Memorial Women's Athletic Scholarship**

Marge contributed more than 30 years in Portage teaching physical education and coaching. She established the Girls Athletics Association (GAA) in 1944 as an intramural sports organization and created the girls track team as the first interscholastic girls sport in Portage in 1972. Marge (née Marjorie Brandt) was born on a dairy farm near Fennimore. She graduated from the La Crosse State Teachers College in 1943, and immediately began her teaching career in Portage. Marge continued to live in Portage until her death in 2016 at age 95.



**Edward & June Lenz Memorial Scholarship**

Edward Lenz graduated from Portage High School in 1937 and served in the Army during World War II. June (Engelke) Lenz graduated as valedictorian from Marshall High School in 1943 and then graduated from Whitewater Teachers College in 1947. In August of 1949, Edward and June were married and together they operated a printing business in Pardeeville. June was a business teacher at Pardeeville High School for 42 years. Edward died in 1998 and June died in 2014.



**Emma J. McDonald Memorial Scholarship**

Emma's wish was to create a scholarship to help students further their education with priority given to students not receiving any other scholarship or financial assistance toward their education at a technical school. Scholarship was established in 2006 following Emma's death.



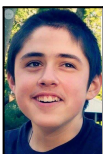
**Larry Millard Memorial Scholarship**

Larry would do anything to help a neighbor in need. He had a heart of gold and would spend lots of his free time working on equipment and relaxing with family and friends. Larry was a firefighter with the Endeavor/Moundville Fire & Rescue for 34 years who died in the line of duty on December 15, 2015, while working an emergency incident on I-39 south of Endeavor.



**Helen L. Moe Memorial Scholarship**

Helen spent most of her teaching career at Portage High School as a physical education teacher and guidance counselor. The scholarship started in 2007 in loving memory of Helen by her family.



**Christian Muniz Memorial Education Scholarship**

Christian was born in 2001 and was a student at Portage High School until his death in May 2018 at the age of 16. He loved to laugh at his own silly jokes. Even though he had autism, Christian was very smart, sweet and loved by all. In keeping with his loving spirit, Christian's family donated his tissue so that others may live, and his brain was donated for autism research.





### **Catherine O'Brien Memorial Scholarship**

Catherine was born in 1923 in the Town of Buffalo and graduated from Portage High School. She went to college at Edgewood College and UW Madison receiving her Master's Degree in Science in 1950. Catherine taught science at Rio High School and then other subjects to high school students of U.S. Military families stationed overseas in Morocco, Spain and Newfoundland. After returning to the U.S., she became a guidance counselor at Lincoln High School in Milwaukee retiring from teaching in 1991. In retirement, Catherine continued to work at her church, in political affiliations, educational institutions, and in the community as a whole volunteering at Divine Savior Hospital. She was a member of the Women's Civic League, the Portage Center of the Arts, and numerous other organizations.



### **Portage Education Association – Russ Gerstenkorn Scholarship**

Russ Gerstenkorn, a 1958 PHS graduate, was involved in band, football, curling, and drama. Following graduation, Russ came back to Portage as an Industrial Arts teacher until his death in 1985.



### **Russ & Edward “Ted” Rebholz Memorial Athletic Scholarship**

Russ was a 1928 PHS graduate who earned 12 athletic varsity letters at Portage High School, played football at UW Madison, and professionally played football for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. He has been inducted into the Portage High School, UW Madison, UW Milwaukee, and Canadian Football Halls of Fame. Russ devoted his career and retirement to athletics, teaching, and character building of young people.



Edward “Ted”, although not a PHS graduate, was a huge Portage supporter and a very active community member for many years. He was an athlete like his father, graduating from UW Milwaukee. Ted then spent his military career in the Army as an officer and pilot. Ted, like Russ, devoted his life to building morals, character, hard work, and dedication to country and community.

This scholarship was established in 2002 following Russ's death with Ted being added following his death in May 2017 and is sponsored by their family. The recipient of this scholarship is a PHS athlete who shows characteristics of these two men.

### **Rhyme – Jack Steinhoff & Steve Ennis Memorial Scholarship**

Jack Steinhoff was the father of Rhyme's president who passed away from cancer. He played high school sports and served in the Navy during the Korean War. Jack was a father of four, and coached youth teams.

Steve Ennis was the Director of Sales for Rhyme until his death from cancer. He was married with two children. Steve was a standout athlete who coached youth sports, and volunteered for various cancer fundraising events. Both men worked tirelessly to help others and represented hard work, determination, optimism, and making every day count. Scholarship was established in 2009.



### **Joseph P. Waldron Memorial Scholarship**

Joe Waldron was born in Watertown, South Dakota, on October 4, 1970, to Tom and Nancy Waldron. He spent most of his youth in Portage. Joe attended St. Mary's Catholic School and graduated from PHS in 1989. He was a three-sport letter winner in football, basketball, and baseball. Joe went on to earn his BS degree from UW Milwaukee and his MBA degree from Marquette University. In 2005, Joe married Christine Gray in Milwaukee. They resided in White Fish Bay with their daughter, Cora (born in 2007). Joe was a securities analyst and vice president at Netols Asset Management in Mequon. He was diagnosed with a rare form of sarcoma in September 2008 and passed away in July 2009. Joe was a great daddy, loving husband, wonderful son, a true big brother, fun-loving uncle, and unforgettable friend.



### **Andrew T. Rosin Memorial Scholarship**

Andrew Rosin, more commonly known as Drew, graduated from Portage High School in 1999. While at PHS, he played offensive and defensive tackle for the Portage Warriors, wrote for the Turner Times and sang in the school's production of “The Unsinkable Molly Brown”. He attended UW-Eau Claire, graduating in 2004 with a degree in political science. In 2000, Drew appeared on ABC's “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?” with Regis Philbin, winning \$64,000. He was a prolific and joyful writer, finishing eight feature film length screenplays. He also contributed articles about University of Wisconsin football and men's basketball to Bucky's Fifth Quarter, a Vox Media website, from 2012 through 2019. Drew was diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer in 2017, and the strength, courage and sense of humor he showed until his death in February 2020 was an inspiration to his family and friends. He would be happy to know his legacy is helping another Portage High School graduate achieve their dreams.