



FACT SHEET

Andrew Martin 'Bo' Harper Scholarship Fund



'Bo' Harper

About the Fund

An endowment fund in memory of PFC Andrew Martin "Bo" Harper has been established at Your Community Foundation, Inc., by his father, Steven Harper. This fund was established to provide an annual scholarship to a Monongalia County or Harrison County student as well as support for Young Life and organizations that benefit U.S. Veterans.

PFC Harper, 19, of Madsville, passed away suddenly March 11, 2011, at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. He joined the U.S. Army after graduating from University High School in 2009. He obtained the rank of PFC/E3 and was assigned to Co I, 3d Squadron, 2d Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Vilseck, Germany.

Company Commander Capt. Daniel Bourke remembered Bo as "one of the finest infantrymen" in Company I. "Despite being young of age, he inspired others," he said of Bo, who, as a vehicle gunner, performed one of the Army's most dangerous jobs. Andrew's father Steven said, "You were a proud young man. You walked tall with your chin up, chest out, you looked at the world as to say, 'Here I am, come get some.' You were the best son any man could ask for. Not only my son, but my best friend. Not only a hero to me, but a hero to a nation. A nation that's indebted to you, for you gave all. I'll miss everything about my son. I'll miss his smile, I'll miss his attitude. If I could say one thing to him now, 'I'm proud of you son and I'll always miss you,'" he said.

Bo played football and was a member of the track and wrestling teams at University High. In addition to sports, he enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he was a member of the Young Life of Morgantown and attended Chestnut Ridge Church. He was also a huge Pittsburgh Steelers and West Virginia University Mountaineer fan.

Eligibility Guidelines

To be eligible to apply for the Andrew Martin Harper Scholarship, a student must have met the following criteria:

- ◆ Completed his or her junior year in high school at a Monongalia or Harrison County High School,
- ◆ Demonstrated academic potential through an active commitment to classroom work and assignments,
- ◆ Exhibited commitment and leadership qualities through involvement in school and community activities and
- ◆ Demonstrated a need for financial assistance.
- ◆ An essay is required on "What Patriotism Means to Me."
- ◆ Applicants will be required to submit for consideration a minimum of one statement from a teacher or counselor addressing whether the student has performed up to his or her potential. Additional statements are encouraged.
- ◆ Additionally, to receive the scholarship, applicants must demonstrate the intent to enroll as a full-time student in an eligible public or private higher education institution by submitting a verification of enrollment upon selection.

How Can I Donate?

The scholarship is managed by Your Community Foundation, which invests the funds to maximize their value. The net annual income from those investments shall constitute the amount of the scholarship award. Any individual, organization or business can make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund.

To make a donation, or to get more information, contact Your Community Foundation, P.O. Box 409, Morgantown, WV 26507. Call us at (304) 296-3433 or visit our web site at www.ycfwv.org.