

PFC Andrew Martin 'Bo' Harper Scholarship

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.

PFC Harper, 19, of Maidsville, was killed in action on 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

This scholarship is for students who have completed their junior year of high school at a Monongalia or Harrison County High School and intend to enroll as a full-time student at a public or private higher education institution. Applicants must exhibit commitment and leadership qualities through their school and community involvement and also demonstrate financial need. Applicants will be also required to submit an essay answering "What Patriotism Means to Me." Preference will be given to a University High School student in Monongalia County.

To apply, please visit www.ycfwv.org/scholarships.

HOW CAN I DONATE?

The scholarship is managed by Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc. (YCF). YCF is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization eligible to receive donations.

Any individual, organization, or business can make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund. Donations are accepted in the form of checks, credit cards, stocks and through bequests. To donate online, click on the "Donate" link on the YCF website, www.ycfwv.org. You may enter a name of a specific fund during the checkout process. Alternatively, donations by check may be made payable to "YCF" and mailed to the address below. Checks should include the name of the fund in the memo line.

For more information, call 304-296-3433 or email info@ycfwv.org.

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