



George E. and Joanne R. Davis Memorial Scholarship

ABOUT THE FUND

George and Joanne (Rancinger) Davis were raised in West Virginia. George was from Fairmont and Joanne from Morgantown, and they met while attending West Virginia University. George was the starting center on the Fairmont Senior High School basketball team that won the West Virginia State Championship in 1949. During the '49 tournament, George was called the “beanpole center” and “matchless matchstick,” and was known for his ambidextrous hook shots. He was the only player to gain the honor of the 8-man All-State Tournament Team unanimously. He continued his basketball career at West Virginia University before graduating in 1953.

George and Joanne eventually became owners of Davis Furniture in downtown Fairmont. They loved interacting with people, solving their home needs and providing friendly customer service for over 35 years until Joanne passed away in 1992 after a courageous 8 year battle with breast cancer.

They were lifelong members of Central Christian Church, in Fairmont and served in numerous leadership roles, supporting the congregation and community at large.



George was a lifelong sports fan up until he passed away in July of 2020. He loved to watch WVU Football & Basketball, as well as Pittsburgh Steelers and Pirates games. George loved the state of West Virginia and would always tell people who had never been to the state, if you go, you will never want to leave.

After George’s passing, he continues to be selfless. He made the decision to donate his body to an Anatomical Gift Program at Elon University. He saw the value in education and science and how he could continue to help others even after his passing.

The Family hopes to carry on George and Joanne's love of West Virginia and their belief in the value of sports and education through this scholarship program.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Provides two approximately \$1,000 scholarships (one male and one female recipient) to students pursuing an undergraduate degree as a full-time student at West Virginia University. Open to Marion and Monongalia County residents only. Applicants must be graduating seniors who participated in organized athletics while in high school or during teenage years. Must have achieved a minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA), demonstrated academic course rigor, as well as commitment to sports, extracurricular, and community support activities. Applicants are required to submit two recommendations; one must be from a coach. In addition, applicants must complete an essay addressing the following: (1) Describe the impact of sports on your teenage years and how that will support your college success, and (2) Why you deserve this scholarship support. This is a one-time, non-renewable scholarship.

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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