



Benjamin W. Hess

MCHS SCHOLARSHIP

If you knew Ben, he surely made you laugh or smile a time or two. If he called you friend, you knew you had someone special in your life who would always look out for you, have your best interest at heart, and bring light to you on your toughest days. Ben was a young man of solid character who was kind, caring, and often a great protector to others.

Ben's high school career was as typical as most. He participated in a little bit of everything. As an athlete, Ben wrestled, played football, and ran track, but he also played the trumpet, sat in a club or two, and loved to draw. He was always one to help out wherever and whenever needed. From a young age, Ben was involved in local Veteran groups as a volunteer at many events, but also in support of his deep family history and numerous family members, including both parents, who served our great Nation.

While Ben committed to joining the United States Marine Corps in the fall of his senior year, he had hopes and aspirations of a career after his time in the service. His mother, Amy Hess (1990 graduate of Shabbona High School) and his father, Craig Hess, (1983 graduate of Aledo High School) are committed to providing this scholarship for five consecutive years in hopes of honoring Ben by selecting a graduating senior with similar goals and dreams. More importantly, the recipient will best reflect the good character Ben upheld throughout his life.

General Information

1. The family of Benjamin W. Hess is offering one (1) \$1000 scholarship to graduating seniors of Mercer County High School, for 5 consecutive years beginning 2022 and ending 2026.
2. Awards are decided by the family of Benjamin W. Hess.
3. The family has the flexibility to deviate from the criteria when appropriate.
4. Completed applications must be turned in to Mercer County High School Guidance Counselor no later than 15 April of the application year.
5. Mercer County Award Recipient will be presented at the Spring Awards Night.
6. Funds will be distributed to the student no later than 1 August of the application year.

Scholarship Criteria

1. Must be a graduate from Mercer County High School.
2. Must plan on attending a 2-year, 4-year, vocational, trade, or technical school.
3. Preference will be given to the following: an athlete, band member, or arts student, and one with military family background.
4. Greatest attributes of the applicant should include solid character, a sense of humor, a kind heart, and a friend to all.
5. The scholarship is not limited to these preferences and anyone is encouraged to apply.
6. Please also include a **picture of yourself** in your favorite place or with your favorite hobby, something that is meaningful to you.

Judging

The applicants will be scored by a Judging Committee composed of the Parents and Siblings of Benjamin W. Hess.

Benjamin W. Hess Scholarship Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Parent's / Guardians Names: _____

School or Program Planning to Attend: _____

Intended Program/Certification/Trade: _____

High School Activities Participated in:

What Year(s)

Provide an Example of a situation in which you displayed having good character, one professionally and one personally.

Please share any additional thoughts or information which you feel the committee should know regarding yourself and your future plans.

Please Include 2 letters of reference from one personal contact and one professional. Professional can include teacher, coach or employer, personal may include family friend, youth pastor, or neighbor.

Attach a high school transcript and return application to Mercer County High School Guidance office by 15 April of the year applying.

Applicants Signature: _____ Date: _____