

Fallen Warrior Memorial Scholarship



The thought of losing a child is most unbearable; yet, three of our colleagues, our family members are dealing with that very loss. Being a part of the Wyoming Area family is a very special gift. It is during times like this that we collectively come together to support our fellow co-workers.

John Borzell, son of Jack and Mary Claire Borzell, Matthew Chipolis son of Steven and Gina Chipolis and Mark Dushok, son of Richard and Debbie Dushok deserve our love and generosity for which our staff is noted. Therefore we have established a scholarship in the name of these three Warriors.

John Anthony “Beno” Borzell was a 2007 WA honors graduate as well as a 2011 Wilkes University honors graduate. John was a true “Warrior” in every sense of the term: a devoted son and brother, an extraordinary student and athlete and a loyal friend. “Beno” as he was affectionately known to all, loved and lived life to the fullest. Throughout high school he excelled in the classroom as well as on the football and baseball fields and in the weight room. Upon receipt of his B.S. in Environmental Science, he began work with Enviro-Science in Delaware as an Environmental Scientist. He was very proud of this achievement. “Beno’s” life on earth ended far too soon with his tragic passing on September 03, 2011. The community deeply grieves the loss of our friend and fellow Warrior, but we are immensely grateful for having been so profoundly and positively impacted by his life. We are confident that Beno’s spirit lives in and through the many lives he touched. His passion for excellence, care and concern for family and friends, and his respect for beauty and the wonder of nature, shall live in our hearts forever.

In the beginning, I think every parent has a plan, a vision of their child as an adult – a blueprint – so to speak – of the final product. Not all children fulfill their parent’s expectations. A very few, however, exceed their parents vision and rewrite the plan to become a new model for what a young adult should be. Matthew Chipolis was that new model. In a world gone wrong, racked by war, poverty, disaster and injustice, Matthew was someone who made us feel right. Matthew was a lifelong resident of Harding who was studying electrical engineering at LCCC when his life was cut short by a tragic motorcycle accident. He was a 2010 graduate of Wyoming Area High School and was an excellent athlete and an avid sportsman, and took great pride in all the sports he played, but his greatest passion was football. His love of football began at age six when he became a member of the Rams organization. This love grew and he became a dedicated and proud member of the Warrior family for his four years of high school. Matt also belonged to the SADD and TATU club. But more than sports, Matt loved people, especially family and friends. He was a “people person”, outgoing and friendly; courteous and caring, helpful and giving and always tried to help people make good decisions. His ever present smile was infectious and brought cheer to everyone he came in contact with. The list of Matthew’s qualities seems almost endless; he was honest, with a good understanding of right and wrong; he had strong convictions that were not easily swayed by peer pressure and he was outspoken when he saw an injustice.

As a final gesture of his giving and loving nature, Matthew provided life to five other people by being an organ donor. His spirit lives on in those lives. Matt's parents advocate organ donor ship because of their experience. When Matt was in high school he wrote an essay on "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost. He said it was about thinking long and hard about making final decisions and not always following the crowd. Having an exemplary character toward fellow classmates, being a dedicated athlete and having empathy for all people as well as good community involvement are the qualities which the applicants to this scholarship should possess. That will help Matt continue his journey on his road.

Mark Dushok was a 2004 Wyoming Area graduate who made his impact on this world through his involvement in Key Club. Mark served as an officer in Key Club and was district editor. Mark’s job as editor allowed him to communicate to the world the on goings of our active club. As Key Club editor he communicated with

the various clubs across the state of Pennsylvania educating them of the possibilities Key Club could provide the community. He also served as Pennsylvania District Editor his senior year, producing and editing a publication read by more than 7500 high school students across the state. Mark was a senior at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) and had become very involved in the school's newspaper, The Penn. Tragically he died on October 29, 2007 from injuries he sustained in a motorcycle accident. His ambition was contagious and his spirit truly inspires all students who strive to make a difference in their community.

Through the generosity of Wyoming Area staff members (including active and retired teachers, administrators, secretaries, janitors, support staff, etc.) and the support of the Wyoming Area community this scholarship has been funded. The inaugural year of this scholarship was 2011 and we plan to continue for as long as possible.

This scholarship will be awarded to a graduating Wyoming Area senior who represents the entire Wyoming Area student body. An applicant should be a well-rounded student with school and community involvement with at least an average academic record and who will be attending a trade, technical, 2 or 4 year college or university. The number of scholarships awarded will depend on the applicant pool. More than one scholarship may be awarded. The amount may vary from year to year.

Final selection will be made by the scholarship committee.

ESSAY: The families of the Fallen Warriors have been forced to overcome unbearable hardships due to their loss. In a solid essay of at least 500 words, write about an obstacle you have faced and overcome in your own life.