

James & Norma Serino Memorial Scholarship

Kind, respectful and well mannered students should apply!



Following his recent retirement from nearly 40 years of service at the Tobyhanna Army Depot, Jimmie Serino has become a regular at the local gym and the West Pittston Dunkin' Donuts. He and his friend, Sam Aritz, spent many of their days at DD talking about doing some good for the local community. Jim's thoughts quickly turned to giving back to the high school from which he graduated in 1972. The idea to honor his parents, James and Norma Serino, through a memorial scholarship stemmed from many discussions he had with Sam.

Jimmie's father James was the oldest boy of his eight siblings and, upon graduating from West Pittston High School, he became the first member of his family to earn a high school diploma. He was an Army infantryman during WWII, earning a Bronze Star and Asiatic-Pacific Theater of Operations Ribbon. James later worked at Tobyhanna Army Depot for 40 years, and Jimmy proudly followed in his footsteps.



Jimmie's mother Norma, 97, grew up in Old Forge with her nine siblings. She graduated from Old Forge High School and beauty school. In addition to being a hairstylist for most of her life, Norma also worked in a dress factory with many other women of her generation. "She is a wonderful cook and, most importantly, a kind lady," Jimmie says of his mother. His parents were happily married for nearly 50 years before James' passing. Sadly Norma also passed away November 5, 2020.

James and Norma stressed the importance of education to Jimmie and his brother Gary. They were raised to respect and be kind to others and to work hard. Because of his parents' emphasis on education, Jimmie graduated from Wyoming Area in 1972 and went on to earn a business degree from Wilkes College (now University). Jim is very proud to offer this award and hopes that many seniors will take advantage of this opportunity.

**KINDNESS
MATTERS**

CRITERIA for SELECTION: Applicant must be a Wyoming Area graduating senior who is a successful student, a volunteer in the school community, possibly a member of a Wyoming Area athletic team, hardworking, well-behaved, and respectful. The student might have held a part-time job during high school. All majors will be considered. The applicant may be attending an accredited certificate program, a technical or trade school, a community college, or a two- or four-year college or university.

REQUIREMENTS: In a solid essay of at least 500 words, select one of the following prompts and tell the selection committee your thoughts on that prompt. Identify your choice in the first line of your essay.

1. Describe a situation in which you were kind or loving or generous to someone. How did you feel and how did it help you develop into the person you are today.
2. Why did you select this particular scholarship to apply for?
3. Did you ever help someone whom you saw others treating unfairly? Tell us how you helped in this situation and what did you learn from it.
4. What qualities do you believe you have to be successful in life? How did you develop them and tell us about any success you have experience as a result of developing these traits?
5. What positive traits do you possess that you feel your parents were primarily responsible for you developing them?