

# Dr. Joseph A. Miller Scholarship

*Complete Dr. Miller addendum also.*



Dr. Joseph A. Miller, Jr., a 1959 graduate of West Pittston High School, is generously donating scholarships to graduating Wyoming Area Senior who will study STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) or the teaching of STEM. In 2018 he awarded \$16,000 to 4 seniors in varying amounts.

This scholarship recognizes and supports STEM education and its importance to the health and well-being of society. It also recognizes and pays tribute to the strong foundation Dr. Miller received at West Pittston High School in science, math and their application to problems facing the world.

Dr. Miller most especially recalls the rigor and high expectations of Mr. Lewis Shook in Chemistry, Mr. Kenneth Lewis in Physics, Ms. Martha Jones in Mathematics, Dr. Doris Wyllie in Biology and Mr. Olin Thomas in Problems of Democracy. Dr. Miller received a BS in Chemistry from Virginia Military Institute in 1963 and a PhD in Chemistry from Penn State University in 1966. He spent 2 years at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA. His career in industry spanned 43 years at E.I. DuPont and Corning, Inc. where he reached the position of Chief Science and Technology Officer at both companies. He has written and spoken extensively on a wide range of technical subjects, and, with his wife Rachel, has been a strong supporter of K-12 inquiry-based science and mathematics education. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

Finally much support must go to all the administrators, parents and students that made West Pittston High School a special place and in the belief of Dr. Miller's parents in the importance of education. An education they never had the opportunity to receive as they left school in the 8th grade to help support their families.

Applicant may attend a 2 or 4 year college: if attending a 2 year school the reason must be clearly stated in the essay: pursuing a med/dental tech degree or defraying total college costs, etc. Essay must clearly state the reason. Dr. Miller and his selection committee will make the final selection of the recipient for this award.

## **Criteria for selection:**

- GPA(Cumulative 9,10,11,12); ACT or SAT scores; Course Rigor will also be considered. Two (2) typed essays which must demonstrate clarity of content and clarity of explaining.

- Two (2) signed letters of recommendation from faculty who are familiar with your values and work ethic.

COMPLETE PAGE 10 of the application.

**ESSAYS:** Complete the following essays in at least 500 words. Both must be typed, signed and dated by the applicant.

1. Explain why the college selected was a good choice for you; why did you pick STEM and what do you intend to do with your degree.
2. Describe an experience in your life that helped shape or define your personal characteristics, values and beliefs. Possible characteristics could include leadership, creativity, risk-taking, honesty, perseverance, loyalty, generosity, optimistic attitude, etc.

**Essays will be judged by the selection committee for Clarity of content:**

- Does the applicant clearly articulate the reasons for choosing a technical field of study
- Clarity of explaining how a personal experience helped shape character and the choice of curriculum.