**Mary Ann Skok Memorial Scholarship**

Mary Ann was only 55 years old when she untimely passed away in April of 2020. Born Aug.17, 1964, she was a graduate of Wyoming Valley West High School and attended additional studies at Wilkes University. She was the oldest of three children and maintained an extremely close relationship with her sister Beth Ann. They were sisters and best friends. She adored all of her nieces and nephews like they were her own. Her husband, Dan, fondly remembers their 27 years of marriage. She was the love of his life, and he hopes to carry on her memory for years to come. Along with Mary Ann, Dan is also heavily involved with the community as a current West Wyoming council man and beloved WA bus crossing guard. Community, kindness, and strength mean a lot to both Dan, and Mary Ann.

She was employed as Operations Supervisor for UGI Utilities, where she had worked for over 30 years. In addition, Mary Ann was the co-owner of the Lighthouse Inn, a beloved local tavern, for those same 30 years. Throughout her life, Mary Ann was also a Girl Scout Troop Leader, PTO president for 10th Street Elementary, dedicated volunteer of West Wyoming and Greater Wyoming Area Little Leagues, West Wyoming councilwoman, officer in the Parent’s Association for both Wyoming Area High School softball and basketball teams, and “team mom” for the King’s College softball team where she always made sure they had mid-game snacks. She was always the person there ready to lend a hand to anyone in need and not the type to let someone down. She was a staple in the Wyoming Area community.

Mary Ann’s outgoing personality touched the lives of everyone around her. She always put her family first and never let family gatherings happen without many laughs. “Without her, I wouldn’t be the person I am today. She pushed me to work hard, get good grades, be a better person, make wise decisions, plan ahead, value family, attend college, attend law school........the list could go on forever. From being involved in kindergarten, all the way to college, my mom never stopped volunteering her time for me and my friends. I don’t think a single person could say she didn’t volunteer her time. I could have not possibly done it without her. She was the most selfless person I’ve ever met,” her daughter, Kristi Ann (Class of 2018), remembers.

The Skok family is looking for a student who understands the importance of grades, along with family, fun, and kindness. Mary Ann knew how important education was and she worked hard to make the WA community better for students to come. Please describe your real and original life experience- family, friends, community, struggles, hobbies, losses- and how this world has shaped you into the person you are today in an essay of at-least 500 words. Share your future aspirations and what education and kindness means to you. Everyone has a unique story, and the Skok family wishes to hear yours. Mary Ann’s family began this scholarship in 2022 to honor her memory.

**Requirements:** All members of the Wyoming Area Class of 2023 are able to apply for this scholarship. The Skok family is looking for a deserving, determined, and well-rounded student who plans to attend a 2- or 4-year trade, technical, or academic college/university. Students pursuing a career in law or medical studies may hold preference. This is not a requirement, so please share your story. Please use Times New Roman 12pt, double spaced.

**Essay Required:** Applicants, please describe your real and original life experience- family, friends, community, struggles, hobbies, losses- and how this world has shaped you into the person you are today in an essay of at-least 500 words. Share your future aspirations and what education and kindness means to you.