

Carroll “Rocky” Bridges Memorial Scholarship Award

Carroll “Rocky” Bridges was an outstanding, multi-sport athlete at DuQuoin High School (DHS). His baseball talents were legendary at DHS and later at Southern Illinois University. Rocky was more than an athlete though; he was a tremendous person on and off the field.

After his playing days were over and a subsequent six year stint as teacher and coach at Woodlawn High School, Rocky became a highly respected coach, teacher, athletic director, and mentor at Chester High School (CHS) for 26 years. Rocky was a humble, down to earth man but at the same time very passionate and straightforward about doing things the “right way.” He gained the respect of his students and peers through his life’s example and by establishing the expectation that the only way to do things in the classroom and on the athletic field was with excellence, honor and class. Rocky’s core values were built around the importance of character, integrity, discipline, respect, and the belief that hard work, as well as how you conduct yourself, were the true measures of success regardless of the activity. These characteristics helped to define Rocky as a person and he tried to instill these same values in the young people that he encountered throughout his career and life.

With this in mind, the Bridges family is offering a \$500 (five hundred dollars) scholarship to the senior CHS student/athlete who best exemplifies Rocky’s core values while at the same time providing outstanding contributions to the CHS athletic program. The scholarship will be awarded based on the following criteria:

- a) Outstanding character, integrity, self-discipline, and attitude;
- b) Sportsmanship and personal behavior on and off the field;
- c) Leadership and respect among their peers;
- d) Work ethic displayed in the classroom and on the athletic field;
- e) Scholastic achievement; and
- f) Athletic activities, involvement, and achievement.

Note: The Bridges family reserves the right to refrain from awarding a scholarship in any given school year based on the applicant pool and other factors.

To qualify, students must have been actively involved in the CHS athletic program and have made positive contributions to the athletic program as a whole. Positive contributions would include years of participation, number of sports played, sportsmanship, and team and individual accomplishments. Students must also seek to be high achieving scholastically. Lastly, students must have already been accepted to a recognized college, university, or trade school. The qualifying student will be selected by the Bridges family through consultation with teachers, coaches, and administrators from CHS.

Completed applications must be submitted to the Chester High School Student Services Office.

Application deadline: April 1st prior to graduation.

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In order to be considered for the Carroll "Rocky" Bridges Memorial Scholarship Award, students must complete the application below accurately and to the best of their ability. A sponsor signature from a CHS coach/teacher is required.

Name _____ GPA _____

Address: _____

Sports Played and Year(s): Ex: Football 2000-2004

Student/Athlete Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsor Signature _____ Date _____

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1. Please list the university, college or trade school that you plan to attend after high school.

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2. Please list any athletic accomplishments:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Please list any scholastic accomplishments:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Please list any other involvement at CHS and within the community:

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Please list your most memorable moment at CHS:

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Please describe why you should be considered for this scholarship:

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Many former players, students, and friends have spoken of the influences or impact that Rocky had on Their lives whether it was through athletics or whether it was through the examples he set forth with his life. With this in mind, please describe how a mentor has influenced or impacted your life.