

STEPHEN DALE ELROD SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

The Stephen Dale Elrod Memorial Scholarship was created to award a \$2,000 scholarship at an accredited college, university, or vocational school to an Eagle's Landing Christian Academy graduating student who most exemplifies the life and value of Stephen. The recipient must be accepted to a college/university/vocational school for the fall semester following high school graduation. The scholarship must be used in the immediate two semesters after graduation unless illness/injury prevents the recipient from attending. If the recipient does not accept or utilize the scholarship in the fall and spring semesters immediately following the award, the scholarship is void. The recipient must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA and 12 credit hours. The scholarship will be disbursed in two equal installments once proof of the above criteria is furnished to ELCA. Qualifying candidates will also exhibit the following characteristics:

- Male/female involved in a school varsity athletic program
- Displays a Christian character
- Citizenship—community service, involvement in a church, leadership, giving spirit
- Strong academic student—Candidates should have a 3.0 GPA and above which includes advanced placement classes.

Stephen Elrod was a 2003 graduate of Pendleton County High School, with valedictorian honors, a graduate of Georgetown College with a business degree, with cum laude honors. He was five classes short of a MBA degree at Northern Kentucky University when his life was cut short at the age of twenty-four after his truck struck a tractor trailer shrouded in heavy fog on the AA Highway on his way to work one July morning in 2009. Stephen had attained a job at Griffin Industries after graduation and was involved in a management trainee position where he hoped to pursue his goal of operational management after the completion of his masters program at NKU.

Stephen loved sports and the outdoors. Although he participated on select soccer teams, school golf and football teams, his passion was basketball. He earned several honors; his favorite being the "Larry Price Hustle Award." He continued his basketball career at Georgetown College. After college, in addition to his job and classes, he was busy most nights playing in softball or basketball leagues

Stephen Elrod had the gift to inject a positive influence on people's lives. Maybe it was because of the humble, Christian values instilled in him from the time he was young, or just the good nature he was blessed to be born with. The lives he touched were immeasurable and anyone with the good luck to meet him was fortunate enough to have their life enriched in some way.

There are countless ways to describe Stephen: compassionate, hardworking, dedicated, humble, athletic, and charismatic are just a few, but none of these can truly capture who he was. He had the rare ability to always put others before himself in any situation, whether it was lending a friendly ear to listen and provide encouraging words of advice, coaching grade school students or simply flashing his famous, friendly smile to someone having a bad day. He always uplifted people through his own positive outlook on life and his talent for making others believe in themselves. Stephen lived the example of Christ in that he gave everything for everyone else. Before his death, he had designated himself as an organ donor. He was always thinking of others. Stephen was a true example of what it means to be selfless.

Stephen had an amazing sense of humor that let him live life to the fullest, never taking a minute for granted. He recognized all the joy life had to offer, especially when spending time with his family and friends. His sense of humor and ability to enjoy every moment made him an optimistic person who didn't let anything get him down.

The Stephen Elrod Memorial Scholarship was started to keep the memory of this extraordinary young man alive and use his memory as an inspiration to young students. You don't get a second chance to make a first impression...you don't get a second chance to befriend someone...you don't get a second chance to brighten someone's day and live life to the fullest.