

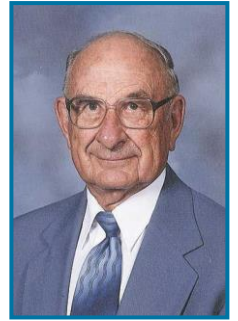
David and Gladys Ruhsam Scholarship

Background:

David Ruhsam and Gladys Leadholm were married on December 27, 1946. They rarely spent a day apart over the next 69 years. Upon graduating from college at River Falls, they both spent a significant portion of their lives as teachers. Gladys taught elementary school in New Richmond, Baraboo, and Osceola. She began teaching in Osceola in 1955 and in 1957 she started the very first kindergarten program in Osceola. She continued to teach kindergarten until her retirement in 1985.



David taught and coached in Ellsworth, WI, Farmington, MN and Osceola, WI, where he resided from 1955 until his passing in January 2016. David primarily taught biology and senior social problems along with coaching varsity football, basketball and track. He coached the boys' basketball team for 28 years where his team's won over 400 games and 14 conference championships. He was selected to the WI Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, and also was inducted into the UW-River Falls Hall of Fame. In December 2015, David was able to participate in the recognition event where the Osceola High School basketball court was named in his honor before passing away in January 2016.



David and Gladys' two sons also grew up in Osceola, both graduated from Osceola High School and went on to successful careers. The family enjoyed both participating in and attending numerous sporting events, camping throughout the United States and Canada, and enjoying all the aspects of living in Osceola. David and Gladys lived in Osceola for over 60 years where they both passed away. Upon their retirement from teaching, David and Gladys took several trips to various locations around the world. David enjoyed hunting, fishing, animals of all kinds but particularly his dogs, cross country skiing, biking, and morning trips for coffee with the Osceola coffee group.

In addition to her family, Gladys' greatest passions in life were being around children and music. She played the clainet, piano, organ and sang alto in the church choir. Even at the age of 91 she would think nothing of sitting down on the floor to talk and play with her great grandchildren or other young children that would come to visit. Gladys passed shortly after her husband in September 2016. David and Gladys' family established this scholarship as a loving tribute of their many years of service to the education of the youth in the Osceola school system.

Eligibility: (taken into consideration to determine recipients)

- Graduating senior from Osceola High School planning to attend a 4-year accredited college or university
- Minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA
- Involvement in a minimum of one athletic sport during high school, and successfully completed at least one full season of that sport
- Students involved in, not only athletics as required above, but also in school and community activities
- Preference may be given to a student who is interested in the field of education
- Financial need will be considered

Award Amount:

One \$1,500 non-renewable scholarship award for tuition expenses.

Selection:

Recipient will be recommended by the Osceola High School Scholarship Selection Committee.

Collecting the Award & Payment Procedure:

Recipients must fill out and submit Scholarship Acceptance Form and Scholarship Verification Form through the [Scholarship Portal](https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cffvrscholar) (<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cffvrscholar>). Recipients are required to provide supporting documents as instructed in the Scholarship Verification Form, such as class registration/list **with** credits listed, proof of major, grade transcript, etc.

After approval of online Scholarship Verification Form, the scholarship check will be paid directly to the school the recipient will be attending. The **Community Foundation communicates with students via email**; it is the student's responsibility to keep their Scholarship Portal account updated with their current email address.

Loss of Eligibility:

Failure to register as a full-time student at an accredited 4-year college/university.

Further Information:

- Osceola High School Guidance Office
- Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
 - Website www.cffoxvalley.org/scholarships/
 - Email scholarships@cffoxvalley.org
 - Phone 920.702.7629