



# Shawano Area Community Foundation Kenneth C. and Loraine M. Dittman Gillett Scholarship

### Background:

Loraine Dittman established the Kenneth C. Dittman and Loraine M. Dittman Scholarship Fund in 2007 to benefit students from Gillett High School and Suring High School who plan to obtain post-secondary education at a college, university, or technical college. Completing college was a financial struggle for Ken and Loraine. They came from small hard-working Wisconsin farm families. Ken grew up and went to school in Gillett, WI and received an electrical engineering degree from the Milwaukee School of Engineering, paying his way by working nights scrubbing brewery tanks.



Loraine grew up in the Colby area and graduated from Stratford High School, Stratford, WI. With the help of occasional babysitting jobs, Loraine earned her nursing diploma, from Deaconess Hospital, Milwaukee, WI. One of Loraine's nursing school roommates happened to be Ken's cousin, who introduced the two and that led to their eventual marriage in 1962. Loraine later

earned a master's degree at age 55. Their hard-earned education led them both into successful careers. Ken worked for several companies including a period as a "trouble shooter" for Allis Chalmers. Loraine was an anesthetist nurse with an Evanston, IL hospital and was a self-described "workaholic". Ken was an avid hunter, fisherman and Green Bay Packers' enthusiast. In retirement, they moved into Ken's family farm home in Gillett.

Attending a financial planning seminar nudged the couple to think about after-lifetime gifts. They decided a large part of their estate should provide scholarships for graduates of Gillett and Suring high schools. Having had no children, and remembering their own financial struggles, helping young people pursue their educational goals felt like the right thing to do.

Eligibility: (taken into consideration to determine recipients)

- Graduating seniors from Gillett High School
  - Planning to obtain post-secondary education at a 2- or 4-year college, university or technical college
- GPA requirements:
  - Minimum 3.0 GPA the last two semesters with a solid trend upward the last two years, if grades have not always been at that level, for students planning to attend a 4-year college/university
  - Minimum 2.5 GPA the last two semesters with a solid trend upward the last two years, if grades have not always been at that level, for students planning to attend a 2-year technical school
- History of community involvement
- Financial need will be considered

#### **Award Amount:**

- Four renewable \$3,750 scholarship awards per year for up to 4-years (total award \$15,000) for students planning to attend a 4-year college/university.
- Two renewable \$3,500 scholarship awards per year for up to 2-years (total award \$7,000) for students planning to attend a 2-year technical college or a 4-year college/university.

#### Selection:

Recipients will be recommended each spring by the Gillett 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 <u>Scholarship Portal</u> (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 maintain full-time student status with a minimum 2.5 grade point average each year.

## **Further Information:**

- Gillett High School Guidance Department
  - Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
    - o Website <u>www.cffoxvalley.org/scholarships/</u> / Email <u>scholarships@cffoxvalley.org</u> / Call 920.702.7629

