

Scholarship Description

This \$2,500 scholarship is available to a Howard County Public High School student, currently in their senior year, whose life has been impacted by cancer, either personally or within their immediate family.

About Jon Grove



This scholarship is offered in memory of Jonathan “Jon” Grove, born in 1964 and longtime resident of Howard County. Graduating class of 1982, Jon wrestled and played football at Mt. Hebron High School. He had his share of adversity during high school, when his Mom passed away during his junior year.

After earning his Associates Degree in Accounting from Howard Community College, Jon went on to co-found Eco-Care Pest Management, Inc. (Howard County, MD) with his older brother Erich.

Jon was a member of the Maryland Rifle Club, enjoyed bowling, fishing, and spending time with family. He also loved his garden, especially Tulips. He was married to Jacqueline, and had a step daughter named Anastasia.

Quick witted, Jon could find humor in even the most stressful situations. Overall Jon liked to maintain a good sense of humor and joke around. He enjoyed playing practical jokes on his siblings and making people laugh.

“Beat the adversity or go down fighting,” summarizes Jon’s outlook on life. When diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Jon was determined to beat it or go down fighting. Throughout his 16-months of cancer treatment, he kept a positive outlook with his caregivers. Jon was always thankful for their care, support and appreciative of what they were doing for him. Trying to survive for himself and his family, Jon was willing to do whatever was needed to beat the cancer. Even in the last few months of Jon’s life, when he was feeling very sick, he still chose to keep trying different treatment options.

A bit like *The Giving Tree* at the end, always wanting to be a good host and be there for others, Jon gave until he couldn't. In his last week of life, constantly tired and barely able to eat, Jon was always thinking about others. When someone would offer him food, Jon would say “but what about you? You need something. Have some of mine.” When people came to visit, he managed to muster the strength to see some of them until he didn't have anything left to give.

This was Jon.

Jon didn't win his battle against his cancer, but throughout his illness and life he demonstrated courage, fight, love, compassion, and giving. Witnessed by all who knew him, this is the legacy he will be remembered for.

Eligibility Criteria

Candidates for the *Jon Grove Memorial Scholarship* must:

1. Attend Howard County Public High School, Maryland;
2. Personally had cancer or a member of their household has had cancer (i.e.: caregiver and siblings, etc.)
3. Plan to attend a two- or four-year college/university or trade school; and,
4. Have an unweighted 2.0 or higher cumulative grade point average through Grade 11. In addition, an unweighted grade point average of 2.0 or higher must be maintained through the first semester of Grade 12.

Application Materials

Applications for the *Jon Grove Memorial Scholarship* must include:

1. A complete and signed application form;
2. A response to the following questions/statements, using examples drawn from their life experience and which are not present in their transcripts, that:
 - a. Describe the type of cancer that you or the family member had, and how advanced it was at diagnosis;
 - b. Describe the short- and/or long-term impact the diagnosis/illness had on their life and how this adversity was overcome; and
 - c. Describe how this experience has impacted your life journey;
3. Two confidential personal letters of recommendation, one from a Guidance counselor and one from any other adult outside the immediate family;
4. An unofficial high school transcript through Grade 11; and,
5. An unofficial copy of the first semester Grade 12 report card.

Students are responsible for ensuring that all components of the application are submitted by the due date.

Evaluation Criteria

The Community Foundation of Howard County will evaluate all applications based on the following criteria:

1. Compliance with eligibility criteria
2. Student essay
3. Confidential letters of recommendation
4. Strength of student's transcript
5. General Impression

Preference will be given to applicants experiencing later stage cancers.

Award Notification and Acceptance

The Foundation will provide applicants with updates and award decisions via the online application system.

The selected applicant will receive a certificate at the schools Senior Awards Ceremony and, upon receipt by the Foundation of the required materials, the scholarship will be sent to the accredited institution.

If the selected applicant receives a full scholarship subsequent to this Award, this scholarship will be re-awarded to the runner-up.

Questions

The Community Foundation of Howard County can address questions about this scholarship program.

About the Community Foundation of Howard County

Founded in 1969 as The Columbia Foundation, the Community Foundation of Howard County has awarded more than \$17 million in grants to Howard County nonprofit organizations delivering human service, arts and cultural, educational and civic programs. Money for the grant programs comes primarily from income generated by the Foundation's endowment supported by more than 300 funds established by Howard County businesses, families and individuals.