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Ethan Michael Sankey Memorial Scholarship

(December 7, 2001 to September 1, 2021)



You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it. – Nikki Banas

One of the brutal truths of life...Life is full of sudden goodbyes. Just when you think you have time, that very precious time is taken away from you, sometimes there is no chance to say goodbye. Ethan Michael Sankey was born on December 7, 2001. Nobody knew the on the delightful day of his birth, his life would last only 19 years, 243 days. Ethan's loved ones lost a son, brother, grandson and a friend when he passed away on September 1, 2021.

The photographs of Ethan tell his story. Gifted, cheeky, kind, honest, confident and humble. His life was an adventure. From it came the gift of quick learning, leadership, wittiness, and a unique ability to bond with anyone at any level. Ethan was inducted in National Honor Society (Junior Year 2018/2019), he was a Vice President of Student Council, academically lettered all 4 years of high school, and attended a leadership conference in Topeka, KS. He was often in pursuit of happiness backed by his own dreams and beliefs. He would have achieved his dreams soon, for he had quite a unique talent. It was a matter of time, but he ran out of time. He was brilliant and creative and had a passion for helping others make the world a better place. He played football in high school (Jersey # 66) and loved music. He was a 2020 graduate from Salina South High School, and in his sophomore year at University of Kansas. He aspired to be "somebody" and to be well-known by others. His positivity was contagious and touched many lives. He was an avid reader, a versatile conversationalist and always backed his

statements with a thorough knowledge and information. He was planning to join the Peace Corp in the Czech Republic to help kids learn English.

The passing of Ethan Michael Sankey is a tragedy and a terrible loss to his beloved family. Ethan was not yet 20, for goodness' sake. Not yet in his prime. We pray he had some idea of the joy he brought to so many. We pass it down to many more through this scholarship. The bright star of our family lives on!

Application Due Date: March 1, annually

The completed application, including one reference letter from a current teacher relating how the applicant demonstrated kindness and caring to a fellow student, and a single page essay indicating how the applicant has demonstrated kindness, leadership and care for others, should be submitted to your school counselor by the deadline. A selection committee consisting of several South High faculty members will select three finalist and one donor family member will review the applications and make the final recommendation. The selection committee will notify the Salina Education Foundation of the name of the chosen recipient no later than April 15.

Eligibility

The Ethan Sankey Memorial Scholarship will award \$500 to a graduating senior from Salina South High School. The recipient must plan on attending full-time an accredited college, university or post-secondary institution. The award will be made by a selection committee on an objective and nondiscriminatory basis. Application must (1) have at least a 3.0 GPA, (2) have demonstrated a willingness to give back to others, (3) have demonstrated a determination to succeed in the future. The selection committee may consider financial need.

Part I: Applicant Information

Applicant Information

Name

Parent/Guardian

Address (Street, City, State and Zip) Phone

**Include a copy of your official high school transcript

Part II: Essay

Submit a 1 page essay indicating how you have demonstrated kindness, leadership and care for others. Include a summary of financial need.

Part III: Letter of Reference

Submit a letter of reference from a current teacher relating how the applicant has demonstrated kindness and caring to a fellow student.