

The Linda J. Smith-Cope POW-MIA Scholarship is sponsored by the **Rolling Thunder® Inc., Indiana Chapter #1.**

Mission Statement:

The major function of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is to publicize the POW-MIA issue. To educate the public that many American Prisoners of War were left behind after all previous wars and to help correct the past and to protect future Veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners of War-Missing In Action. We are also committed to helping American Veterans from all wars.

Rolling Thunder, Inc. is a non-profit organization, and everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW/MIA issue.



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Linda J. Smith-Cope POW-MIA Scholarship



This scholarship is to honor Linda's spirit, and not only remember her brother Ronald E. Smith but all those that have yet to come home to family and friends from all past wars.

A \$1,000 scholarship is to be awarded annually to a Covington or Fountain Central High School graduating senior seeking a higher education at an accredited College, University, or Trade School.

Established 2019

Linda Joette Smith-Cope (1950 – 2019), joined Rolling Thunder in 2006 participating actively until her death. Linda's brother, SFC Ronald E. Smith, served in Vietnam becoming among the missing and unaccounted for on November 28, 1970 while on a mission near the tri-border area of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Linda was passionate and dedicated her entire life to finding out the details surrounding the mission, and the whereabouts of her beloved brother. Linda faithfully carried on the mission of Rolling Thunder in educating the public on the POW-MIA issue.

She authored the book *Still Waiting*, published by Splattered Ink Press, which chronicles her life growing up with her brother, and the years of agony in search for answers following her brother's missing-in-action declaration by the Department of Defense.

Requirements:

The student applying for the scholarship will be required to independently write an essay on a POW/MIA themed topic of their choosing.

The theme of the essay should be original and based on an event, person, philosophy or ideal.

The essay should be no less than five hundred (500) words and no more than twelve hundred (1200) words. Separate from the essay should be a bibliography or works cited page. If the applicant wishes to write about a family member, it should be separate from the themed essay.

****Essay submission deadline is April 30th.**

The essay will be judged by the members of the of Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1 Scholarship Committee for historical accuracy, clarity of thought, organization and proven topic, grammar and spelling, and documentation.

Possible topic themes might be a discussion of POWs during a particular war (Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, etc.), POW encampments such as in Andersonville, Georgia, Camp Atterbury, Camp Morton, internment camps of Japanese-Americans during WWII.

Winner announcement and scholarship award will be presented at senior awards night.

The student will need to present a copy of their letter of acceptance, and student ID number, for verification of admittance to the school they have selected to attend. A check for \$1,000 will be issued to that school to be applied to cover any educational expenses as necessary.

****Along with the essay, applicant's contact information and counselor endorsement attesting to the student's standing as a graduating senior is required. Please use 12 pt font and submit the completed application and supporting documentation to the counselor.**

Applicant agrees, if his/her essay is chosen as a winner, it becomes the property of Rolling Thunder®, Inc., Indiana Chapter #1 and may be published accordingly. Applicant further agrees his/her essay may not be submitted to any other contest or used for any other purpose without the express, written permission of Rolling Thunder®, Inc., Indiana Chapter #1.