

Deadline:
April 1st



The Durell Blank Memorial Scholarship

The recipient of this non-renewable scholarship of \$1,000 will be selected by Durell's family members in collaboration with faculty from Elida High School. The scholarship will be announced during the Awards Ceremony or Graduation.

Life has many challenges and the intention of this scholarship is to recognize a graduating senior from Elida High School who has dealt with a unique challenge during his/her lifetime. This challenge can be one that affected the student personally or his/her family. We believe we are all shaped by the unique challenges that face each one of us and what differentiates us, is how we handle them, how we face life, and the choices we make that will determine our future. It is important to remember that out of every challenge, comes a positive. Sometimes it takes time to know what that positive is or how to find it.

The Durell Blank Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Durell who graduated from Elida High School in 1981. Durell or Beaver as he was known throughout his life, was born with Cystic Fibrosis, which has no cure. At the time of his diagnosis, the life-expectancy was 10 years old and has risen to 41 years today. He had his unique challenges, but he never gave up hope and was waiting for a lung transplant when he died, hoping for a chance of more years. Durell defied the odds, and due to research and God's grace, he lived to the age of 44.

Durell refused to let CF define his attitude toward life or confine his activities. Failure was not an option for him, he acted like CF was a little nuisance and not an illness that was sure to cut short his life. His life was shaped by his illness, not defined by it. Beaver was a life-long learner, he had to learn new skills, adapt and change his career as his illness progressed. He was an engineer with an MBA, owned his own business, was a loving son and brother, a husband and a father of twin boys, now 18. He taught us how to live by how he lived.

Students Eligible:	All seniors residing in Elida School District and attending Elida High School or Apollo.
Judging Criteria:	Unique Challenge, Handling Life through the Challenge, Need and Scholarship (in that order)
Granting of Money:	Funds will be awarded to the selected recipient to defray costs for tuition for the Fall of 2022, upon notification the student has registered for classes.

Durell W. Blank Memorial Scholarship
Application Form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Numbers: _____ (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Father's Name: _____ **Occupation:** _____

Mother's Name: _____ **Occupation:** _____
(Including Maiden Name)

Number of Children in Family: _____ **Number of Children in College:** _____

Please list college other children are attending, their major and year of expected graduation:

Your GPA: _____ /4.00 (Must be at least 2.75)

Special Honors/Awards:

Extra-curricular activities (in or out of school)

Do you have a job: _____ **Employer:** _____ **# of Hrs.Per Week** _____

Where will you be attending College: _____

What is your intended major: _____

What is the cost per year: Tuition _____ **Room/Board** _____

Describe your career objectives and ambitions (*use one additional page, if necessary*).

An essay of 500 words or more should accompany this application outlining the challenges in your life, how they have affected your high school years, and discuss the positive and negative aspects of your challenge(s).

In addition to the essay, please attach 3 letters of recommendation with one of them being from your guidance counselor. A small recent picture would be appreciated. All applications must be returned to the Guidance Office by *April 1.*

**Scholarship funded by: Mary Elmquist-Lane, Mother of Durell
 Debra Kidwell, Sister
 Julie, Mason and Connor Blank, Wife and Sons**