



Ron Barnhart

FFA Memorial Scholarship



Ron Barnhart began his journey with FFA as a freshman at Buhler High School. He enrolled in Mr. Julian Johnson's Vocational/Ag class which became a life changing event for both instructor and student. Mr. Johnson found a student who loved FFA as much as he did and for Ron, he had found a teacher who was a role model of the virtues and standards of the FFA organization.

Throughout high school, Ron not only learned a great deal about FFA, he promoted it in every way he saw possible. He especially enjoyed helping Mr. Johnson introduce underclassmen to the true meaning of FFA, sharing his knowledge of opportunities that were available, and he delighted in the various accomplishments he witnessed each member achieving. Ron's calm and nurturing personality made him very approachable. His encouragement was infectious and a great asset for Mr. Johnson's classes.

Two out of Ron's four years of high school he served as Chapter President and one year as State President, also representing Buhler FFA in many judging competitions, speaking events and farm tours throughout the state.

In 1966, Mr. Johnson, Ron and the eight other FFA members encouraged the State FFA Association to create an exhibit at the Kansas State Fair. The Buhler FFA Chapter members worked together in setting up, running and providing the animals for what became the first year for the "Kiddy's Barnyard" at the Kansas State Fair. It was located on the north side of the Fairgrounds. A few years later a Big Red Barn was built at that same location and FFA chapters throughout the area maintained that exhibit for many years after. That same year, as a community service, the FFA members promoted and distributed SMV signs (Slow Moving Vehicles) to a wide area of farmers. Those SMV signs are now required on all slow-moving vehicles.

Thanks to the guidance of Mr. Johnson and the strength of character Ron gained through his FFA experiences, he had the confidence of leadership and guidance to help serve others in the field as an Electrical Contractor. Some years later he became the second generation owner of Kenny's Electrical Co. of Hutchinson, KS, with his father's retirement. While at the helm of Kenny's Electric, Ron completed his 52nd year as an active member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW).

Ron Barnhart passed away on April 3, 2018 after fighting MDS and AML Leukemia for nearly four years. As one of his last requests, Ron ask to have a yearly scholarship established for a graduating Buhler High School FFA Senior to help further their education in an area of leadership and management. He would also ask, above all else, that each of you show compassion in helping and guiding others and to try and live up to the FFA Creed every day of your life.

Buhler FFA Alumni Scholarship Application

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- Be a graduating senior from Buhler High School
- Have been a Buhler High School FFA member for a minimum of two years.
- You must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above.
- Clarify your plans to attend an accredited institution of higher learning, which may be a 2-year or 4-year college, or vocational tech school.

Award Amount: The recipient will be awarded a **\$250** scholarship which will be sent to them after receiving verification of enrollment in an accredited 2-year or 4-year college or vocational school.

Notification: Buhler FFA Alumni will recognize the recipient of this scholarship at the Buhler FFA Chapter Banquet each year.

Deadline: Scholarship applications must be turned in on or before **April 1st**.

Submit to:

Mr. John Clark or Mrs. Nikole DeWitt
% Buhler FFA Alumni Association
Buhler High School
Buhler, KS 67522

Questions:

Please answer each of the following questions as completely as you can and include additional paper if needed.

- What way has FFA leadership qualities affected your future goals?
- Name two ways that FFA has changed you as a person and how do you see them affecting your future goals?
- What is your most memorable FFA moment?
- Using your experiences as an FFA member, what is the most important achievement you have made that was unrelated to FFA?
- What advice would you give a Buhler High School student that has just enrolled in their first Ag related course?
- Name several goals that will aid you in contributing positively to society.
- List one SAE goal you set for yourself and how did you achieve it?