

Aaron Bowles Memorial Scholarship

Established 1989

Background:

Aaron Bowles was a gifted athlete and an avid outdoorsman. Growing up on his granddad's farm along the Leon river is where a lot of his love for the outdoors began. Even as a child in the summer time it was fishing and swimming the river and leading long explorations with cousins and friends. Those days only ended when he could hear his grandmother calling him home echo through the canyons. This way of life is normally captured in books like "Huckleberry Finn", though few actually ever get to live it. His passion for the outdoors would continue to evolve throughout his life.

Summer league baseball was an arena where competition only displayed his true talents. Baseball in Eastland begins at age five, only because those that are truly passionate about the game will continue. Aaron was a talented pitcher as his friends often recall and his competitors knew him for, he could throw the heat and finish them off with a curve.

The fall of 1989 was very promising for this sophomore athlete and many alike. Aaron was a varsity quarterback on a team that was remarkably talented. The media was already predicting a state football championship. That fall The Eastland Mavericks had an undefeated record and were bound for the state title. While preparing for the playoffs, drama would unfold from information withheld by Cisco ISD in reporting a UIL infraction. The 89' Eastland Mavericks fate was not in the hand of the UIL administrators, and unfortunately the season would be determined off the field. This information would ultimately end their championship run. Since that time no Maverick football team has been undefeated.

On December 27, 1989 a tragic event occurred while three young men were duck hunting on Lake Leon that would forever put the fall of 1989 into perspective. The passionate outdoorsman and athlete would be faced with the ultimate sacrifice. Their boat capsized in freezing water and they raced for the shore-line. Aaron realized his best friend was not going to make it He went back to rescue him. Aaron and Brad did not make it back to the shore and succumbed to the elements. The Lord would now be calling them home.

These events shook the community, changed the life of many, and showcased the compassion that lived int Eastland. The family will never forget and will forever be grateful to lives Aaron touched. He always had a smile on his face and hope in his eyes.

The Aaron Bowles Memorial Scholarship is a symbol of honor, morals, integrity, and compassion embodied in the student-athlete.

Criteria:

To be eligible to apply, a student Must:

1. Be and EHS student in good academic standing and plan to attend college;
2. Be a student athlete;
3. Demonstrate good character, leadership, and service;
4. Demonstrate a passion for the outdoor.

Selection Process

1. The recipient(s) of the Aaron Bowles Memorial Scholarship will be recommended by a selection committee comprised of members of the Aaron Bowles family and a current representative of the coaching staff.
2. The Selection Committee, with the approval of the Executive Director of the Foundation, will annually establish the number and award amount. In a given year, the Committee may exercise the option of making no selection.

Academic Achievements/Transcript Information:

Cumulative GPA _____ Rank in Class _____ Size of Graduating Class _____
SAT - Total Score _____ Math Score _____ English Score _____
ACT - Combined Score _____ Math Score _____ English Score _____

For the items listed below you may attach separate page

1. Extra-Curricular Activities:

List any extra-curricular activities in which you participated while in high school. Please note any special honors received or offices held.

2. Elective Courses:

List elective courses taken at EHS and any additional college courses taken or currently taking.

3. Have you been involved in community service?

4. List details concerning present or past employment

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Dates of Employment</u>	<u>Approx.# of Hours Worked per Week</u>	<u>Type of Work</u>

Essay

Attach a 300 word essay as a separate page that explains how you meet the criteria above. Also, include why you want to go to college and how receiving this award will impact your ability to attend college (either university/junior college). What are your career interests/goals and what has motivated you this direction? What do you hope to accomplish with your life? Add any information about yourself that you feel is important for the scholarship selection committee to know about you. If there has been a major obstacle in your life that you have had to overcome (or continuing to overcome), consider disclosing this information. Consider this essay as a way to let the committee know what type of person you are and why you deserve this award. **Essay must be signed by applicant to indicate it is the applicant’s original work.**

Checklist:

1. Review criteria and application process
2. Verify application due date
3. Complete application
4. Attach official high school transcript through fall semester of Senior year.
5. Attach essay (**signed** to indicate the essay is your original work)
6. Attach 2 Letters of Reference
7. Attach CV/Resume

Certification: I understand that by signing this application, I am stating that all information is accurate to the best of my knowledge and I have not falsified or misrepresented any information contained in the application packet.

Name (Printed) _____

Name (Signed) _____

Date: _____