

*Mr. Jeff Shirley*  
*Memorial Scholarship Award*

*Established June 2020*

*33 Years of Service in Education*

*Integrity, Selfless, Supportive, Empathetic*

*Athletic, Sports Enthusiast*

*Life Well-Lived*



**Overview & History:**

Jeff Shirley was a 33-year veteran in education and devoted his life to students. He personified kindness and a quiet strength. During his teaching career, Jeff enjoyed coaching wrestling and football. As an athletic director, he embodied good sportsmanship and athletic integrity.

Mr. Shirley served kids as a physical education teacher, a coach, and, during the last fifteen years, an Athletic Director at Pulaski. Mr. Shirley was often found in the gyms and on the playing fields supporting the students, the school, and the athletic programs that he loved. Mr. Shirley demonstrated honesty, a reliable nature, and a forthright integrity daily. His approach to life is a legacy that will endure for generations. This quiet, strong man valued people and placed them before himself.

Mr. Shirley's family wishes to continue his legacy through the establishment of the *Jeff Shirley Memorial Scholarship*, which will honor Pulaski graduates who have demonstrated the virtues in which he lived his life, on and off the field.

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### **The Scholarship:**

The **Mr. Jeff Shirley Memorial Scholarship** is given in celebration of the life of Jeff Shirley, to two graduating Pulaski high school seniors. The recipients of the award have displayed the following characteristics.

- A diligent work ethic and continually give the effort in doing school tasks
- Participation in at least one extra-curricular activity during grades 9-12
- Is a team player in their respective roles:
  - supportive of others
  - willing to do the work
  - is a well-rounded person
  - self-less, generous, & kind and humble
  - is fun-loving and optimistic

The award winner embodies and demonstrates these values as well as honesty, compassion, and a willingness to help others. Scholarship recipients either are leaving high school with the goal to continue to work in a career path, or is entering the military, or is planning to attend college post-high school.

The scholarship amounts awarded may vary from year to year based on available funds.

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**Application Process:**

Candidates eligible for the *Jeff Shirley Memorial Scholarship* must meet the following criteria:

- The person must be a graduating senior from Pulaski Academy and Central School.
  - **All graduating seniors are eligible for this scholarship.**
- On a daily basis, the students have demonstrated all the fine qualities of Mr. Shirley. (See pg. 2)

**Award Recipient Selection:**

The recipients of this award have been selected by a committee of school personnel comprised of the Athletic Director, teachers, counselors, secretaries, and / or paraprofessionals, as Mr. Shirley worked with all of the people in these various roles throughout his career. The committee reviews all graduating seniors and makes the selection. The recipients will be notified of the award during the Pulaski Senior Awards Night Ceremony prior to the graduation commencement.

Recipients of the *Mr. Jeff Shirley Memorial Scholarship* are to send thank you notes or letters to the Shirley family that has made this scholarship possible. Pulaski Academy will notify recipients of the address for mailings.