

Application

Army Staff Sgt. Michael Murphrey Memorial Scholarship

Snyder High School

Name: _____

GPA: _____ Rank in class: _____

Extracurricular activities: _____

Awards or honors received: _____

Plans after high school graduation: _____

Have any members of your family ever served in the military? If so, who, when, and where? _____

Use an additional page, if needed. See back for essay portion.

Michael Murphrey was an ordinary young man at Snyder High School, or so it seemed. He was a hard worker in the classroom, was well rounded participating in a variety of activities, was a natural leader in a wide range of scenarios and, as the brother of four sisters, refused to tolerate disrespect to ladies and he made that perfectly clear to anyone who tried. On the sports field, Michael excelled, earning all district honors in football and track and providing leadership in the sports brotherhood on and off the field.

Michael was at Snyder High School on September 11, 2001 and watched the horrific events unfold with his classmates and teachers. According to family members, he made a resolve that day as to what direction he wanted to do in life after graduation from SHS in 2003. He went on to fulfill this mission and joined the United States Army where he worked relentlessly to serve and become a leader in this new brotherhood. It has been said by his comrades that he had all the qualities of a good soldier including loyalty, respect, and a selfless sense of service. Numerous reports of his battle performance include descriptions such as the following direct quotes: “ He valiantly maneuvered without regard for personal safety through the hail of enemy fire”, “Murphrey bounded forward through imminent danger”, “Murphrey courageously led the assault”, “Murphrey was the key element”, and “. . .after clearing the first objective almost single handedly, he continued to lead his element”. In the Army, he was the recipient of multiple awards including a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

On September 6, 2009, Staff Sgt. Michael Chance Murphrey died in FOB Sharana Afghanistan from wounds suffered when his unit was attacked by enemy forces with an improvised explosive unit.

On September 11, 2015, Michael’s Snyder Tiger football jersey, number 99, was officially retired in a ceremony at Tiger Stadium and a replica is displayed in the field house to inspire future generations.

In an essay of 250 words or less, please write your feelings regarding Michael Murphrey and the sacrifice he and his family have made for the freedom we enjoy. Please type or write neatly.

Please return completed applications (with essay) to the SHS Counselor's office by May 17, 2018. The applications will be forwarded to members of the Murphrey family, who will select this year's recipient of the \$500 scholarship.

Thank you for your interest in keeping the memory of Michael Murphrey alive at Snyder High School.