

The Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship and Pearl Harbor Remembrance Award

The Scholarships

In 2027, the Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship Fund will award up to three (3) $3,000 scholarships and up to two (4) $500 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Awards to outstanding seniors from the communities listed below. The scholarship recipients will be announced in April 2027.

Students must complete the online application form and provide the supporting materials to the Scholarship committee no later than Sunday, February 14, 2027. Applications are available online at https://www.nshsf.org/projects/scholarships/ Students may contact their school counselor for assistance with the application process.

Applicants who do not receive the Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship will be considered for the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Award.

Family members, staff, and/or trustees of Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation and Nebraska State Historical Society are not eligible to receive scholarships.

Seniors applying must be from the school districts which encompass the hometowns of the memorialized sailors.

Hometowns:

Alda
Broken Bow
Brule Central
City Cozad
Gothenburg
Kearney
Lincoln
Madison
Mitchell
Nelson
Newark (Minden)
North Bend Omaha
Palisade
Potter
Ravenna

The Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship



Marine Corps War Memorial– Washington, D.C.

The Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship Fund was created to memorialize the brave men and women who served their country fighting for the freedoms of millions of people.

Two Lincoln, Nebraska, servicemen in particular, have been memorialized by their families through these scholarships: Edward J. Clough and Adrian B. DePutron.

GM1C Edward Clough was killed during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and remains entombed aboard the U.S.S. Arizona. His sister, Helen, chose to honor his memory through a gift that would help establish the Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship Fund.

Lt. Adrian DePutron was killed during the Battle of the Bulge on January 20, 1945, while serving with General Patton's Third Army. The Lieutenant's aunt, Marjorie Barstow, through her estate, honored her nephew's service with a gift to help enhance the scholarship program.

The Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship Fund provides up to three (3) $3,000 scholarships to high school seniors from the school districts which encompass the communities that were hometowns of the entombed Nebraska sailors.

This scholarship is specifically designated for expenses and will be paid directly to the educational institution.

The Pearl Harbor Remembrance Award

The Pearl Harbor Remembrance Award Fund was created by Colonel Barney Oldfield, a Tecumseh, Nebraska native, and his wife Vada to honor the 22 Nebraskans who were killed during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and remain entombed in the U.S.S. Arizona.

"Vada and I wanted to do something to honor those Nebraskans who lost their lives in Pearl Harbor. We wanted to do more than lay a wreath or say a prayer. Those who lost their lives and those who knew them deserve more than dismissal as statistics and the anonymity given them by distance of both mileage and time. It was for that reason we established the Pearl Harbor Remembrance fund which links the names of those 22 men to awards for all of time to come." – Colonel Oldfield

The Pearl Harbor Remembrance fund provides up to four (2) $500 awards to high school seniors who applied for, but did not receive, the Nebraskans of World War II Scholarship.

The award may be used at the winner's discretion.

In Memory - This memorial is built on top of the U.S.S. Arizona battleship that still remains on the bottom of the harbor. Of the 1,777 men killed on board, 1,102 men are still buried within the battleship today.
This battleship became the final resting place to these men. The 22 Nebraska soldiers entombed with the U.S.S. Arizona are listed below.



U.S.S. Arizona Memorial

HA1c Gerald Arthur Atkins
Gothenburg
F1c Kenneth Robert Bickel
Potter
CMM Harry L. Browne
Ravenna
S1c Naamen N. Chapman
Mitchell
F1c Loyd Raymond Christensen
Alda
Cox Robert R. Clayton
Central City
GM1c Edward Jay Clough
Lincoln
Ptr1c William Eernisse
North Bend
S1c Richard Everett Ellis
Omaha
Cox Peter John Harris
Lincoln
F1c James Thomas Hasl
Omaha
HA1c Lester John Hoelscher
Madison
Y3c Warren Allen Jones
Kearney
Capt. Thomas Leroy Kirkpatrick
Cozad
SC3c Stanley Kula
Omaha
Ens Frank Stuart Lomax
Broken Bow
S2c Max Valdyne Peery
Nelson
Mus2c Neal Jason Radford
Newark (Minden)
S1c Gerald Harold Riggins
Brule
RM2c Tom Savin
Omaha
MM1c Elmer Pershing Schlund
St. Michael
SC3 Elmer Elias Yates
Palisade

Scholarships Administered by

Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

Connecting people with Nebraska history since 1942.

402-435-3535 / www.nshsf.org

All students can create a profile at www.educationquest.org to gain access to this scholarship opportunity. Omaha Public School and Lincoln Public School students can apply through their scholarship portals.
You can also see your Guidance Counselor for application materials.