



Sons of The American Legion

DETACHMENT OF NEW YORK

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THE LT. MICHAEL L. LEWIS, JR. MEMORIAL FUND

--RULES--

Two (2) scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.00 will be awarded annually. This is a gift scholarship – not a loan.

1. Candidates for this award must be a MEMBER in good standing of The New York Detachment – Sons of The American Legion, and are in their Senior year or are graduates of an accredited high school.
2. There will be no limit to the number of applications that any one Squadron may wish to submit.
3. Applications are mailed to all registered Squadrons; additional applications may be photocopied. Completed applications must be returned to Detachment Headquarters, ATTN: SONS Coordinator, by April 30th.
4. The Squadron Advisor and the Detachment Scholarship Chairman shall certify each application.

SELECTION PROCEDURES:

1. A Committee of at least five (5) distinguished members of the Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion will serve as judges.
2. A representative of the Lt. Lewis Scholarship Fund will present the award at the Detachment Convention.
3. Candidates shall be selected on the following basis: 25% each for: Americanism, Character, Leadership, and Scholarship.
4. The decisions of the Selection Committee are final and are published in a Detachment mailing.

SONS Coordinator will forward all applications together to the Chairman within one (1) week after the due date.

THE DETACHMENT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW ALL APPLICATIONS FOR COMPLETENESS AND WILL FORWARD ALL APPLICATIONS TO THE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE FUND.

Revised 10/04

THE FOLLOWING MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.

1. Copy of APPLICANT'S current-year Membership Card.
2. An article written by applicant, consisting of no more than 200 words, subject being: "WHY A COLLEGE EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT TO ME" or "I WANT TO CONTINUE MY POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION IN A BUSINESS TRADE SCHOOL".
3. A certified transcript of high school or college grades.
4. Listing of extra-curricular activities, participation in civic activities, employment, number of hours worked per week, paid and volunteer work.
5. (High School Seniors Only) Certificate of acceptance and/or letter stating date you will receive it from the school you will attend.

Send by April 30th to 112 State Street, Suite 1300, Albany, NY 12207 ATTN: SONS Coordinator.

The Michael L. Lewis, Jr. Memorial Fund, Inc. is a memorial to a leader. Quoting from an article printed in the 1965 College of Santa Fe Yearbook, Michael wrote:

"It is the prime duty of a responsible citizen to become aware of his surroundings, to actively participate in them, and to gain a strong sense of responsibility and leadership which will enable one to become a credit to himself and his community".

If anyone lived by his word, it was Michael L. Lewis, Jr., a native of the Bronx, New York, active in the Sons of The American Legion in the late 50's and early 60's....Vietnam War casualty in 1968 and the reason for these prestigious scholarships.

Mike graduated from college in May 1966. The following September, he enlisted in the Army where he attained the rank of Lieutenant in June 1968. During his second tour of duty in Vietnam, his platoon suffered its first loss....Lt. Michael L. Lewis, Jr.

In the 1969 Paladin (yearbook of the College of Santa Fe) there was a memorial tribute to Michael: "His achievements by no means should lead one to believe that he was a model student, rather he was the typical college student...aggressive, troublesome at times, and always looking for a good time. Though grade wise he was average, there was no doubt of his success in the future. Mike's major was Physical Education, but many of his classmates felt he should have been Pre-Law" ...a comment, no doubt, on Mike's aggressive style and leadership.

As a tribute to their son, Rosalie and Michael L. Lewis, Sr., with the help of the Throggs Neck Memorial Post American Legion members, family and friends established the Memorial Fund with the express desire of fostering and sponsoring the higher education of worthy young men and women. The Fund awarded its first scholarship in September 1969.

The fund currently awards two Sons of The American Legion Scholarships, a presentation each year to the Governors of Empire Boys State and Girls State and local Post/Unit Awards in Bronx County and to individuals recommended by Board Members and supporters of the fund...more than 12 awards each year.

The Lewis Scholarships are prestigious, not only because they recognize the scholastic achievement of some very deserving students, but also maybe more importantly because they honor the memory of a young man for whom the words participation and leadership were more than just abstract concepts, but were indeed, the actions of Michael L. Lewis, Jr.