

## **PIOTR MARCINIAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Piotr Marciniak was a Hollidaysburg student and attended the GACTC Culinary program. His family won a "lottery" to come to the United States when Piotr was just two years old to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by our country. Since English was not Piotr's native language, it took time and effort to immerse himself in our language, and he excelled! He always wanted to become a Chef. Piotr was not afraid to work hard; his personality could be described as levelheaded, quiet, respectful, and conscientious. Piotr would do whatever was asked of him; he also held down a job at the US Hotel in Hollidaysburg to learn even more about the culinary arts. Piotr looked upon the older culinary students with respect & admiration- and learned from them as well as his teachers; he eventually became one of those students who set the example of what it takes to be successful in the food service industry.


The night he was killed, Piotr wanted to go to a concert in Allentown; his parents lived separately, so Piotr told his Mom he was staying at his Dad's and vice versa. Friends were supposed to join him in traveling to the concert, but they backed out. So Piotr drove to the concert alone and on the way home fell asleep at the wheel of his car, drove off the road and was killed. Piotr had never missed a day of school. His instructors knew something had to be wrong because Piotr was not there the following day. Piotr began his last year at the GACTC as a trainer for the GACTC's restaurant group. With our Chef's recommendations and Piotr's drive, he was accepted into IUP Culinary Academy before he even began his senior year at the GACTC.

His future plans were solid...Everything was in place...We never wanted Piotr's memory to fade from our hearts; we decided to have a fundraiser and award a memorial scholarship to an outstanding senior, who displays some of what Piotr was all about.

### **CRITERIA**

#### **AMOUNT \$500**

- 3-year student at the Greater Altoona Career & Technology Center.
- Must submit a letter of acceptance to a post-secondary culinary school (minimum of one year certificate program)
- Must be an A or B student (average over the 3-years at the GACTC) and verified by the GACTC Guidance Counselor.
- Submit three letters of recommendation – these can be from home school and/or the GACTC
- Write an essay with the prompt...How do you plan to use your culinary education and training, and tell us why you should be selected to receive this scholarship.

If you meet the criteria above, please fill out the Scholarship Application and place a checkmark  in the box to the left of the *Piotr Marciniak Memorial Scholarship*.

**DUE BY MARCH 1st @ 3:00 PM TO THE OFFICE OF WORK BASED LEARNING**

1. General Scholarship Application
2. Typed essay, 300 words or less, with writing prompt...
  - \*How do you plan to use your culinary education and training, and tell us why you should be selected to receive this scholarship.*