

HOLMAN FAMILY EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

The Holman Family Excellence in Service Scholarship was created by Vincent Holman, Sr., and Constance Gore-Holman, to honor the life and memory of Sergeant Major (Ret.) Donald Matthews Holman, his wife, Ora Lee Vaughn-Holman, and the Holman family's belief in faith, lifelong learning, and selfless community service.



The scholarship is available to students attending Western Illinois University pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees. The Holman family's partnership with First Command Educational Foundation and an endowment from Ora Lee Holman make the fulfillment of this memorial scholarship possible.

DONALD MATTHEWS HOLMAN

SGM Holman was educated in the Robertson County Schools. He graduated as valedictorian of Bransford High School Class of 1951. He attended Lane College, Jackson, TN, before being drafted into the United States Army. SGM Holman was a career Soldier of thirty-three years. After retiring from the military, he attended Saint Leo College where he received his associate degree in Human Resource Management.

Later, he was ordained a deacon and was chair of the Deacons Ministry of Bethesda Baptist Church, South Chesterfield, VA for several years. He was very active in church, civic, and community ministries, including President, Deacons and Deaconess Conference of Richmond and Vicinity; President, Deacon and Deaconess Union of Chesterfield County; President, Jesse Mayes Chapter of Triple Nickel (555). SGM Holman also served with the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship, Fort Lee Chapter; The Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship of Virginia; Mentor for young men and 5th graders at Harrowgate Elementary School; and Secretary, Tri-Cities Brothers-in-Christ. He served as a Sunday School teacher for the Young Adult class, Vacation Bible School teacher, the Ushers Ministry, the Men's Ministry, the Couples Ministry, and the Happy Young Hearted Seniors Ministry.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- African American
- Current or future student at Western Illinois University
- Active in a local community Faith Based Organization
- Active in school or local community Sports
- Grade Point Average of 2.5 – 4.0 on a 4-point scale
- ***Future Aspirations*** – Undergraduate or Graduate Degree
- ***Bonus*** – Participation in Scouting America and/or Military Service

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION WINDOW

- February 7th – Announcement/Solicitation of Applicants
- April 15th – Application Deadline
- 1st week of May – Identification of Recipient(s), Public Service Recognition Week

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed Application Form
- Short Bio – 250 Words (minimum)
- Short Essay – Two Pages, Double Spaced
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation from Clergy, Teacher, Coach or Work Supervisor
- Current WIU transcript or acceptance letter