

Linda Billings Memorial Endowment Scholarship



Linda was 15 years old and a sophomore at Westfield High School when she died of a rare illness on December 14, 1978. She had become ill in mid-October of that year, and an accurate diagnosis was finally made at Children's Hospital in Boston just a few days before she died. Linda had many, many interests during her short life. She loved to read, and she wrote poetry as well. She was determined to learn German, and thought that her teacher, Miss Gallogly, was the greatest! In the spring of 1978, a student from Germany stayed with us for three weeks, and Linda was looking forward to visiting Germany the following year.

Linda began taking flute lessons when she was a sixth grader at South Middle School. Her dream was to learn to play well, and then to learn the piccolo so that she could play the piccolo accompaniment in "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

Outside of school, Linda was a member of the Westfield YMCA Gymnastics team. She really loved that sport, and had amassed a large collection of gymnastics posters and books. Linda's career plans were vague, as they should be when one is a sophomore. She did, however, think that she might like to become a child psychologist.

Thus, we have requested that the Linda Billings Memorial Scholarship be given each year to a Westfield High School graduating senior who plans to major either in psychology or music. This honors the loving memory of our daughter.

Written by: Gil & Evelyn Billings
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