

# The Eric Sorg *BIG CAT* Memorial Scholarship

## ERIC'S BIOGRAPHY

The Eric Sorg Memorial Scholarship, established in 2012, honors Eric James Sorg, aka "BIG CAT."

Eric passed away Aug. 21, 2011 of injuries he sustained in a fall while exploring a mountain trail in Patrick County, VA. He died the way he lived, curious about what was around the bend and ready for an adventure. Eric was 17 and ready to begin his senior year at First Colonial (FC) High School. The world was his for the taking . . . as is YOURS.

Eric was born September 12, 1993 at Fort Belvoir, VA, to Col. James H. "Jay" and Nancy Sorg. He had an older sister, Camryn. He lived in Quantico, VA; on Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base, NC; Virginia Beach, VA; and Japan before returning to Virginia Beach in 2007. At FC Eric played on the varsity volleyball team, was a member of the National Honor Society, and participated in other school activities. Eric also was a former soccer player for Virginia Rush and for FC. He worked for the Scott Rigell congressional campaign and part-time at Cold Stone Creamery. Volunteering at the Virginia Beach City Schools Ropes Course, TOPSoccer, and the JCOC Soup Kitchen, as well as with other organizations gave Eric much pleasure. In addition to being an artist and enjoying all types of music, he loved skateboarding and other outdoor activities. While Eric had boundless energy, he also was kind-hearted. His thoughtfulness extended beyond the love of his rescue dog, Daisy, and loyalty to his friends -- when applying for his drivers license, Eric chose, without hesitation, to be an organ donor, because of his desire to potentially ease the suffering of others.

After Eric's death, his friends and family created a WORDLE using words or phrases that exemplified Eric's character, personality and spirit. It evocatively demonstrates in a visual way who Eric was and will serve as the framework for the ideals on which this scholarship is based.



## **Purpose:**

The Eric Sorg Memorial Scholarship was created by the Sorg Family to:

- ▶ Preserve the memory of Eric James Sorg, aka “Big Cat”
- ▶ Allow friends, neighbors and family to make contributions in his name to honor him
- ▶ Give back to the Virginia Beach community where the Sorg family was proud to raise their son

## **Eligibility Requirements:**

Applicant must:

- ▶ Be a graduating senior at First Colonial High School
- ▶ Be accepted into a program of study at a post-secondary educational institution, as evidenced by a letter of acceptance and a letter of deposit.
- ▶ Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 at the time of application

## **Method of Selection:**

The recipient of the scholarship will be selected on the basis of academic achievement, as well as participation in school and community activities and organizations. More importantly, the recipient will have a commitment to the ideals on which the scholarship is based. The selection will be made by the Sorg Family and a committee of their choice.

## **Application Process:**

- ▶ Application period open through May 24, 2019.
- ▶ Applications must be received via hard copy by the First Colonial HS Guidance Office by the close of business day on May 24, 2019 or electronically by midnight on May 24, 2019. Email to: **Adrienne.Tomao@vbschools.com**
- ▶ Application review and selection of a recipient to be completed by May 29, 2019.
- ▶ Selection notification will be made to First Colonial High School the following week.
- ▶ The scholarship will be awarded at FC’s Senior Awards Ceremony.

## **Amount of the Award:**

A \$2500 Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating Senior at First Colonial High School.

## **Checklist:**

This application and attached essays, along with an official copy of the applicant’s high school transcript, two (2) letters of recommendation from teachers or community members, acceptance letter from the intended college or university and proof of deposit must be received by the designated date. Late applications will not be considered.

# The Eric Sorg *BIG CAT* Memorial Scholarship

## Scholarship Application 2019

**APPLICANT #** \_\_\_\_\_

To be completed by Administrator

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parents'/Guardians' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Big Cat*

# The Eric Sorg *BIG CAT* Memorial Scholarship

## Scholarship Application 2019

**APPLICANT #** \_\_\_\_\_

Years at First Colonial High School \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Use separate pages where necessary*

List any academic or community extracurricular clubs, sports, or activities in which you participate or have participated and dates of participation:\*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Indicate which educational institution to which you have been accepted and the reasons for your choice:\*

---

---

---

---

Describe your career interests and/or goals. The selection committee realizes that in many cases, applicants will not have decided on career goals; if this is the case, what areas of study are you most interested in exploring more?\*

---

---

---

---

---

# The Eric Sorg *BIG CAT* Memorial Scholarship

## Scholarship Application 2019

**APPLICANT #** \_\_\_\_\_

### **ESSAY QUESTIONS - Pick 2 out of 3 (Attach Separately):**

**Essay Question #1:** What have you accomplished in the past (or are intending to accomplish in the future) that has made or will make a meaningful impact on the well-being of others -- your family, your community, or in the career field that you intend to enter?

**Essay Question #2:** Pick one or two of the words in the WORDLE on page 1 and describe what the word or words mean to you and how you have exemplified this word or these words in your life.

**Essay Question #3:** List two specific examples of situations where the lessons you learned from playing on a sports team or or participating in another type of school sponsored activity has benefitted you in other areas of your life.

+++

I have read the information pertaining to the Eric Sorg Memorial Scholarship. If chosen for the scholarship award, I agree to fulfill all obligations as noted. By my signature, I also certify that the information I have given here is correct and that **I have written my essays without ANY outside assistance or review.**

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return the following to the First Colonial Guidance Department,  
ATTN: Ms. Adrienne Tomao**

\_\_\_ Scholarship Application Form

\_\_\_ Two (2) Essays

\_\_\_ Official Transcript

\_\_\_ Two (2) Letters of Recommendation

\_\_\_ Proof of acceptance to post-secondary educational institution and verification of deposit.