

The Dr. William P. Watts Memorial Scholarship

The Dr. William P. Watts Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a student of any major who has demonstrated excellence in academic achievement, has made contributions to the community and school, and who demonstrates financial need.

The scholarship is named in memory of Dr. William P. Watts, a Huntsville native. After graduating from Huntsville High School, William P. Watts enrolled in the U.S. Naval Academy and graduated in 1938. He earned the Navy Commendation Award Medal and National Defense Medal in 1946. After retiring as the commanding officer at the Navy Purchasing Office in New York in 1960, he returned to Huntsville where he became the administrative manager of the Research Institute of the University of Alabama and chairman of the Business Administration. In 1977, he earned his Ph.D. in business administration from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

In addition to his business responsibilities, Dr. William P. Watts became active in the Huntsville community and was a past president of the Huntsville Madison Council for International Visitors. Dr. Watts' lifelong love of music led him to serve as a trustee of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra and a member of the Huntsville Community Chorus. He also served as a vestryman of the Episcopal Church of Nativity and a member of the Huntsville Rotary Club. Dr. Watts' greatest joy in life was his role as a husband to his wife of over 50 years, Eleanor, and as a father to their daughters, Dr. Deborah Clark Watts and Lauren Watts Buchner.

This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional years. The student must maintain a full-time course load (undergraduate - 12 credit hours, or graduate - 9 credit hours) each semester. In addition, recipients must complete a total of 24 credit hours (graduate - 18 credit hours) each academic year and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for renewal. Students should submit a scholarship application every year in order to update their files and possibly be eligible for other awards.
