

Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship

OVERVIEW

The Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship was established in 2021 to recognize and support a graduating high school student living in Rockdale County GA. The scholarship was recreated by Conyers Best Laundry and the family of Carl Van Williams in honor of the high level of community involvement displayed by Carl throughout his life. The recipient must be enrolled in or accepted to an institution of higher learning and have shown a commitment to volunteering in his or her community.

Carl was born on April 27, 1939 in Dixiana, South Carolina in Lexington County. He graduated from Allen University where he pledged Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. before serving in the United States Army. Carl loved his community and made Columbia, SC his home for most of his life.

Carl was a very spiritual man and had a love of helping and developing young people. He was a dedicated high school math teacher and basketball coach. Carl's passion for what he did was apparent as he spent years refining his skills working with youth.

In 1970 Carl won the South Carolina state basketball championship his first year as the varsity coach with Booker T. Washington High School. When Booker High School closed due to integration, Carl moved to A.C. Flora High School where he served as assistant coach for six years until being named head coach. In 1981, he led this team to win the state championship his second year as the varsity coach. The A.C. Flora team played in the championship game again his third year before he won his third state championship in 1985.

After leaving A.C. Flora, Carl went to Richland Northeast High School. He had some highly ranked basketball teams during his time at Richland, but they did not win a state championship. In 1999, after moving to Lower Richland High School, he won his fourth state championship.

Carl was selected by Nike to coach with their basketball programs where he worked summers from 1985 to 2002, including three years coaching in basketball camps in France, Italy and Spain. His outstanding reputation took him to Bogota Colombia, South America where he worked with the Partners of the Americas for a basketball clinic.

Carl had an influence on several prominent National Basketball Association careers. Leon Bimbo from Booker T. Washington played with the Chicago Bulls and then coached the Utah Jazz. Xavier McDaniel was on the A.C. Flora team and was the #4 overall pick by the Seattle Supersonics and enjoyed a long NBA career spanning over a decade and included being named to an All-Star Team and an All-Rookie First Team. Tyrone Corbin was on the A.C. Flora team as well. Corbin played in the NBA for 16 seasons and worked as head coach for the Utah Jazz.

Carl was enormously proud of the growth and achievement of the young people whose lives he touched. While three made it to the highest level in basketball, there were many others who received a free college education because of their commitment to the sport that Carl loved.


Carl was inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008 and into the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame in 2015. He made history as the only high school coach to win four state championships for 3 different high schools over the span of three decades. He won 503 games, 4 state

titles and 10 region crowns. He had five teams selected as the Top 50 SC All-time Best and four teams that ranked Top 25 in the Nation by USA Today.

Carl passed away peacefully in his sleep on July 8, 2019. Despite his numerous accolades and awards, he remained kind and incredibly humble. He was quick to recognize the importance of those around him and when asked about his high level of accomplishments, stated "...it's virtually impossible to achieve these things as an individual."

The Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship will recognize a young person who, like Carl, understands and demonstrates the selfless dedication to those around him or her.

The recipient will be awarded \$4,000.

Conyers Best Laundry is a modern self-serve laundromat located in Conyers, GA and, along with the family of Carl Van Williams, is a proud sponsor of this scholarship.  (www.conyersbestlaundry.com)

2021 Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship

GUIDELINES

- *Applicant must be a resident of Rockdale County, GA.
- *Applicant must be a graduating high school senior who has been accepted in a two year or four year college/university or a technical program.
- *Applicant must have a minimum GPA of 2.5/4.00. An official copy of his or her high school transcript must be included.
- *Applicant must submit two letters of recommendation from a faculty member (high school or place of volunteer service).
- *Applicant must list the timeline, location and type of his or her community service involvement to be considered for the scholarship.
- *Applicant must complete an essay of 200-500 words about his or her volunteer work in the community. This can be with school, a youth group, a religious organization, a sports team or something else.
- *Applicant must provide a copy of his or her valid student id, state identification card or state driver's license.
- *Applicants may be asked to participate in an interview.
- *Scholarship funds will be paid in August 2021 or at the start of the academic term, directly to the college/educational institution. It will be the student's responsibility to submit to the scholarship committee at that time any information required to complete the payment.
- ***Application deadline is Friday, April 2, 2021** to be received by the scholarship committee. Late applications cannot be accepted. An email will be sent confirming receipt.
- *Employees of Conyers Best Laundry are ineligible to apply.

Email completed application package to:

cwilliamsservicescholarship@gmail.com

The applications will be reviewed, and recipients selected by members of the Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship Committee. The scholarship recipient will be announced in May 2021.

Applications may be downloaded from the Conyers Best Laundry website at <https://www.conyersbestlaundry.com/about-us/scholarship/>

Please submit any questions to:
Yvette Morton Williams at (908) 720-3570 or cwilliamsservicescholarship@gmail.com

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR STUDENTS

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that if chosen as a scholarship winner my picture may be taken and used to promote the Carl Van Williams Service scholarship program.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship policy, I must be present at the scholarship presentation ceremony. The location of the event will be in Rockdale County, Georgia or online if required.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to the Carl Van Williams Service Scholarship policy, it is my responsibility to remit to the Scholarship Committee the appropriate information for my scholarship to be paid directly to my educational institution.

I hereby understand I will not submit this application without all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this scholarship.

Signature of scholarship applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of guardian for applicants under age 18: _____ **Date:** _____

Checklist

- ___ Application
- ___ Letter of Acceptance for college/university/trade school
- ___ Official Copy of High School Transcript
- ___ 2 Letters of Recommendation from School Faculty or Volunteer Organization Staff Member
- ___ List of Community Service Activities with Location and Dates
- ___ Essay about Applicant's Community Service
- ___ Copy of Applicant's Student ID or State Identification/Driver's License

Email Complete Application Package To:
CVWILLIAMSSERVICESCHOLARSHIP@GMAIL.COM

REMINDER:
The deadline for this application to be received is:
April 2, 2021