

MANDY COATS SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The Mandy Coats Memorial Scholarship was established in 2004 and first awarded in 2005 to memorialize Nancy Amanda Coats. Born on November 14, 1977, in Pine Bluff, she was the daughter of Jimmy and Sandy Coats. After graduation from White Hall High School in 1996, Mandy attended the University of Arkansas at Monticello until her diagnosis with Batten's Disease. At the age of 26, Mandy joined her Lord on May 23, 2004. She was an active member of First Baptist Church in White Hall.

Mandy's life was a constant testimony. She was a friend to all, because she accepted everyone around her without bias or prejudice. Her selfless display of love and energy, even when she had little energy herself, taught the true meaning of compassion. This pronounced concern for the well-being of others, in spite of failing health, defined Mandy. She shared her love for Jesus routinely and unashamedly – how much she adored Him, how much He loved her, and toward the end of her life how ready she was to see Him.

This scholarship was established to enable Mandy's spirit to live beyond her lifetime. Her greatest desire upon entering college was to grow intellectually so that she could help those around her. This scholarship will allow deserving students to achieve the opportunities that Mandy cherished but was never able to enjoy.

The Scholarship Committee will review all applications with a tremendous amount of thought and prayer. Additionally, the Board may require an interview as part of the final selection process. Offering the opportunity to pursue higher education to ultimately change the lives of others keeps Mandy's memory alive.

All applicants for a scholarship must meet the following requirements:

- Must be an Arkansas high school senior who is applying for a college scholarship for the freshman year;
- Must be an active member of a church and/or other Christian organization;
- Must plan to attend an accredited college or university on a full-time basis;
- Must be of high moral character, exhibit a strong work ethic, and be intellectually qualified for the desired pursuit;
- Must have and maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or better (scholarship awards will be forfeited if the student's GPA falls below 2.0);
- Must be willing to accept a scholarship as a gift from God and be willing to later help others as a result.