



MICHAEL D. SOWICH

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP: This scholarship is given in Memory of Michael D. Sowich who passed away in the Line of Duty while attending the N.Y.S Instructors Weekend at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD in 2007.

Mike was a 1975 graduate of T.R. Proctor High School. He pursued studies at M.V.C.C., earning an associate degree in criminal justice. He joined the U.S. Army and trained in medical and police studies. As a proud veteran, Michael's military experience spanned 20 years, including a tour in Germany and Reservist with the 331st General Hospital Unit.

Mike joined the Sherrill-Kenwood Volunteer Fire Department in 1991 and held the positions of fire marshal, lieutenant, and EMT. Michael was awarded 1996 Firefighter of the Year. He took numerous courses at the New York State Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls. In 1997, he became Sherrill's official training officer, and in 2001, he was appointed an Oneida County Fire Instructor. Later Mike was appointed as New York State Fire Instructor. He was certified to instruct 22 courses, held 133 training classes, and was certified as a HAZMAT specialist. Michael was an amazing instructor who grasped knowledge and taught in a way that each person could comprehend. His attentiveness to detail was impeccable, and his method of teaching was well organized and well planned. In January 2007, he joined New Hartford Volunteer Fire Department

Mike was a devoted husband and father who dedicated his life to helping others through his Community Service.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA: This student needs to be a probationary firefighter or son/daughter of a volunteer firefighter within Oneida County. This student must have outstanding community service, very good grades, and will be attending college starting in Fall 2025.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Home Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number: (____) _____

High School Attending: _____

GPA: _____

Do you currently volunteer with a fire department? Y or N

Name of Dept: _____

Please provide the name of a firefighter we may contact for a reference.

Chief or Officer: _____ Phone: _____

School Activities/ Community Service Organizations:

Honors/Awards



Received: _____

Additional Information: Please write one page essay about your experience with community service and volunteering.

Application is due by April 11th, 2025.

The scholarship this year will be \$1000.