

Alfred M. Aseel Legacy Scholarship Fund

<u>Fund Purpose</u>: The fund was established to honor the memory of Alfred Aseel's parents Alfred Abraham and Fadwa Khechen Aseel to support continuing education for non-traditional students from the Tupper Lake area.

Scholarship Criteria:

The fund is available to non-traditional students attending North Country Community College, SUNY Potsdam, SUNY Plattsburgh, SUNY Canton or Clinton Community College. The scholarship will support one student from Tupper Lake or its immediate surrounding area (e.g. Piercefield, Conifer) wishing to pursue an educational experience that allows them to "re-invent" themselves and their future.

Eligibility:

Demonstrated integrity and good character will be guidelines for selection. In addition, personal commitment and potential will be considered as key characteristics allowing the students to succeed. Students must have a 2.5 GPA or higher to be eligible.

Grant Amount: \$5,000 per year for 4 years.

<u>Renewal:</u> The annual award is renewable for a total of four years if the recipient maintains the eligibility criteria stated above. Renewal applicants will be required to complete agreement forms and must submit documentation certifying their GPA and enrollment status each year.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: All applications to be submitted online: https://www.adirondackfoundation.org/online-grants-manager.



Alfred M. Aseel Bio

With few skills beyond determination, Alfred Moneer Aseel completed high school and immediately began working at a job he was ill suited for, and from which he got very little satisfaction. Following two years of work, he served two stints in the U.S. Army. Upon completion of his second tour of duty, Alfred returned to his Tupper Lake home with no plan and no purpose. Inspiration and purpose came to him by way of his

older sister who was then a student at Potsdam State University (PSUC.) She encouraged, inspired, and paved his path to admission at PSUC. College became option and opportunity as a pathway to reinventing his life. Opportunity knocked and Alfred opened the door, giving credence to the adage that "when the student is ready, the teacher appears!" Elated by his decision to pursue college, further support and sacrifice came from his hard-working Lebanese immigrant parents Alfred Abraham, and Fadwa (Khechen) Aseel.

Alfred recognized that it was his good fortune to have a supportive family. Though he entered college with his prior academic achievement at a modest level, it was primarily through a bountiful supply of determination and grit that he would graduate four years later! He so often said, it was his college experience that allowed him to pursue work that gave him great pride and satisfaction, and a lifestyle he thoroughly enjoyed.

After a life of extensive travel and challenging management work, most of that abroad, Alfred passed away at the age of 78 in 2016 at his retirement home in Tupper Lake. The Aseel Scholarship is a legacy of appreciation for the support he received on his life journey, a tribute to his parents, his testimony to the value of education, and of equal importance, it is Alfred's way of "paying it forward."