

# HERO

Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Scholarship Fund Newsletter

Issue 4 | 2017

## Upcoming Events

We have established three annual events to support the scholarship fund and remember the service and sacrifice of our Hero, Lt. Daniel P. Riordan. Our family looks forward to seeing you at our events in the upcoming year and we truly appreciate your continued support!

### Lt. Riordan Memorial Trivia Night

Saturday, November 11, 2017  
Vianney High School

### Drinks for Lt. Dan

February 2018  
John D. McGurk's in Soulard

### Lt. Riordan Memorial Golf Tournament

June 1, 2018



## Record-Breaking Golf Tournament

The tenth annual Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Memorial Golf Tournament raised more than \$20,000 this year, far exceeding our expectations and recent years' proceeds. Our deepest appreciation goes to our 156 golfers and many sponsors and volunteers who enabled us to host such a rewarding tournament.

Special thanks to gold sponsor John & Pam Flatley, lunch sponsor P'Sghetti's Pasta & Sandwiches, dinner sponsor First Command Financial Planning, and silver sponsors Zeller Technologies, Central Bank of St. Louis and Rick & Michelle Riordan.

## Congratulations to Scholarship Graduate James Whalen

Our fourth scholarship graduate, James Whalen, graduated from St. John Vianney High School after an incredibly busy and successful senior year.

James was named 2017 Vianney Griffin of the Year, the highest honor a senior can receive. This student is chosen by his graduating class as the young man who best exemplifies the characteristics of a Marianist education and lives the Vianney mission.

Throughout his four-year journey, James was a respected student leader. His senior year, he excelled as president of his

class and was involved in theater, music, sports and Vianney's pro-life efforts. He was a National Honor Society member and received the Principal's Leadership Award, recognized for his outstanding leadership traits and exceptional academic achievements.

And if not busy enough, James continues to pursue his passion for music and is currently working on recording his first album.

While he'll certainly miss his Vianney family, James was excited to start his college journey at Rockhurst this fall, majoring in Business & Accounting.

Lt. Daniel P. Riordan, a 2001 graduate of Vianney High School, was killed while serving our country in Iraq. To honor our beloved Dan, we established the Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Scholarship Fund. "Lt. Dan" was a man who loved his family, his God and his country. His faith gave him the strength necessary for battle. This faith was cultivated and strengthened by the faculty and staff of Vianney High School.

With your support, in ten years we have raised more than \$550,000 for students in need. Please visit [www.facebook.com/ltdanriordan](http://www.facebook.com/ltdanriordan) to learn more about the scholarship fund and annual events. Thank you for your continued support and helping us remember a true American Hero.

## Lt. Riordan Scholarship Recipients

We are proud of each young man currently on scholarship in Dan's honor. The following are highlights of their many accomplishments this past year. We also welcome our newest recipient Ben to the Vianney family.

### Alex Heib

Alex's junior year was packed with schoolwork, volunteer activities, playing golf and starting the college search.

Alex achieved Second honors, acted as an Ambassador and participated in the Letterman's Club where he helped with Special Olympics and other events throughout the year. Alex volunteers his time to help St. Louis Power Soccer United, an organization that provides persons with physical disabilities the opportunity to play wheelchair soccer. He was also active in the Queen of All Saints Youth Group.

Alex was Captain of the varsity golf team and led them to win six golf matches and back-to-back district titles. For the third year in a row, Alex represented Vianney at the Missouri State High School Golf Tournament.

Alex finished the year completing his junior service project at the VA Medical Center serving our Veterans. He was the only non-senior recognized at the senior awards ceremony, awarded the MHSAA Award of Excellence for exemplary display of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity, given to one Vianney student-athlete each year.

Alex spent his summer competing in junior golf tournaments, working at Tapawingo Golf Club and visiting with college golf coaches. He won the Decatur Junior Golf Open and finished in third place in the Hurricane Summer Challenge, qualifying him to play at the Hurricane National Championship in Florida in December.

Alex is grateful to our many scholarship fund supporters and honored to represent Vianney at school functions, displaying qualities that would make Lt. Dan proud.

### Nathan Beaton

During his freshman year, Nathan enjoyed his classes, earned First Honors and played basketball and baseball. Unfortunately, he suffered a knee injury in his second basketball game, but worked hard in physical therapy to resume playing the second half of the season. He started at second base for the Vianney baseball team and also excelled at pitching. He continued to play highly-competitive baseball over the summer for the St. Louis Naturals Baseball Club.

Nathan is active in his Catholic faith and attended the Teen ACTS Retreat this summer. He also volunteered at the Missouri Special Olympics softball tournament, handing out medals and filling water jugs for the players. He finds it very rewarding helping those with special needs play softball.

Nathan looks forward to his sophomore year as a Griffin!

### Ben Clobes

Ben is excited to join his new Griffin family, leaving behind a great group of friends and educators at Washington Middle in Mehlville, where he was a National Junior Honor Society member and participated in numerous school activities. Ben is humbled to receive the Lt. Riordan Scholarship.

Ben's primary interests include soccer, basketball and baseball. His favorite memory was traveling to New York to play in the Cooperstown Dreams Park baseball tournament. He was part of two CYC Soccer Championships with his parish, Assumption, and looks forward to contributing to Vianney's storied soccer program.

Ben hopes to create lasting memories with his fellow Class of 2021 Griffins. But most importantly, he's looking forward to a college preparatory, faith-based education.

