

*McKenzie Travis Memorial College Softball Scholarship Application
In Loving Memory of McKenzie Travis*

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____

High School: _____ GPA: _____ College: _____

Student Involvement and Accomplishments (i.e. Clubs, Organizations, Other Sports):

Community Involvement and/or one-time Volunteer Activities:

Hobbies:

Submit application with one letter of reference from a non-family member that speaks to your character and worthiness for this scholarship.

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Essay Options. Please respond to the essay of your choice. (While there is no established length requirement for the essay, please ensure you provide an adequate response and that it is grammatically correct as it will be heavily weighted.)

Parents who introduce their children to outdoor team sports at a young age usually do so for one of or a combination of three reasons – so their children can make new friends, so their children can get fresh air and exercise or so their children can build on what appears to be a natural talent. As children mature, the expectation is that they will learn some valuable life lessons that will serve them well as adults. We knew McKenzie learned one of those important lessons when she was pitching, game tied, runner on third, bottom of the seventh, an infield hit gets overthrown by shortstop to the catcher, her team loses 3 to 2. The shortstop apologized for losing the game; McKenzie responded “it takes all of us to win; it takes all of us to lose – we’ll get them next time.” List and tell us a little bit about three things that you have learned from team participation.

In our family, we used to have a lot of discussions about birth order – that people behave the way they do because of their placement in the family and that placement in the family is one of the many things that shapes your character. McKenzie was the youngest of three girls. One of the positive things was that she was the baby, Daddy’s little girl and pretty much spoiled by all of us. One of the negatives was the constant comparison to her older sisters creating the struggle to become her own person and she definitely became one of a kind. What is your family composition and birth order and what have been the advantages and disadvantages of being first born, middle child or the baby? (For clarity, if there are more than 3 children, all children before first and last are middle children).

We taught our children that each day is a gift – that you are never guaranteed tomorrow and that when each family member walks out the door there is no guarantee they will return. Never in our wildest imagination would we have guessed how true this could be. Because of that lesson, however, McKenzie’s last words to us walking out the door or on the phone were always “I love you” and she gave the best hugs. Nothing can compensate for our loss but in addition to wonderful memories McKenzie gave us, we can always cherish her last words to us for they were “I love you.” Please share something powerful that you have learned from a parent, family member, clergy member, teacher or friend for which you are grateful and have applied to your every day life.

Like all of us McKenzie had her strengths and weaknesses. One of her strengths was her acceptance of all people. She was not judgmental and could develop a rapport with anyone of any age. Procrastination was probably one of her biggest weaknesses – she never did anything in advance, always right at the deadline or better yet a day late. If someone close to you were to tell us of one strength and one weakness you have, what would they say and why? Don’t shy away from this question just because of the weakness. Everybody has them. It takes a bigger person to admit them.