

## **Gamber Family Scholarship in Memory of Eric Tennis Scholarship Application**

Two \$750 scholarships shall be awarded to a graduating Watertown High School or Great Plains Lutheran High School student. The recipient will have a physical disability, mental challenge or learning disability. Consideration shall be given to the financial situation of the applicant and their parents, and preference among qualified applicants shall be given to those with greatest need.

Applicant's Name and high school \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's or guardian's names \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children and ages in family \_\_\_\_\_

Number of family members who will be in college next fall \_\_\_\_\_

Father's occupation and place of employment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mother's occupation and place of employment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_

College attending and Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Cost per year \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your school activities and awards.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please list your community involvement.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please tell us why you would like to further your education and how this scholarship will help.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

I certify that to the best of my knowledge all information furnished in this application is true and complete.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this application** to the Watertown Community Foundation, PO Box 116, Watertown, SD 57201 **by April 27, 2012.**

### **Gamber Family Scholarship in Memory of Eric P. Tennis** (established 2011)

Eric Tennis was born on June 19, 1978 to Robert and Paula (Kauffman) Tennis in Milbank, South Dakota. He passed away on November 8, 2008 at his home in Watertown. He grew up in Wilmot, SD, and in 1983 Eric was chosen South Dakota Easter Seals Poster Child. Eric attended school in Wilmot until the age of eleven, and then went to the Children's Care Hospital and School in Sioux Falls, SD, where he spent the next seven years. He received a certificate from the Wilmot School system for completion of academic studies.

In 1996 Eric moved to Watertown. In 1998 Eric started working at County Fair Foods as a greeter and was employed there for 10 years. Eric is most remembered for his incredible smile, great sense of humor and uncanny way of remembering names. Eric was always happy and made friends easily. He enjoyed spending time with his friends watching wrestling, football, basketball and of course Eric was the biggest and best Watertown Arrows fan. He also was an avid Green Bay Packers fan and made everyone aware of that.

Greeting people at County Fair was Eric's love; he loved to make people smile and always said "have a nice day". Eric was most proud of purchasing his own brand new home in 2007, and loved living independently. He invited everyone to his house and always gave the grand tour. He is missed by all his family and friends but will stay in their hearts.

Eric was proud to be a mentor at Roosevelt Elementary School in Watertown. Reading and helping the elementary school children each week was his highlight. He was always anxious to go to Roosevelt. He also was proud of graduating from Partners in Policymaking, a six month course in Pierre, SD, teaching self advocacy for people with disabilities and families of people with disabilities. Eric learned to self advocate and became his own guardian, something he was very proud of. Independence and prosperity is what he learned and Partners gave him great tools for his life. Partners changed Eric's life in so many positive ways. He also received the Hospitality Award from Governor Bill Janklow for outstanding hospitality in the year 2000.