



PANHANDLE STATE
FOUNDATION



Dr. James A. Countryman Scholarship

Est. 2017

The Dr. James A. Countryman Scholarship was recently endowed through Panhandle State Foundation. This fund was established by donations from friends and family as well as memorial donations. The endowed scholarship will be available beginning with the 2018-2019 year. It will be open to an OPSU student who is a Junior or Senior with a minimum 3.5 GPA. Applicants must be Pre-Vet majors planning to attend a veterinary medicine school after completion of their bachelor's degree. Financial need and community service will be considered during scholarship selection.

Dr. James A. Countryman was a dedicated professional, a civic leader and an active member in his church. He was born in 1934 in Raton, NM. He graduated from Hooker High School in 1952 after being active in football, baseball, FFA and the National Honors Society. He went on to what is now Oklahoma Panhandle State University for three years before being accepted to the

Oklahoma State University school of Veterinary Medicine, where he earned his doctorate in 1960. He began his private practice in Guymon in 1960 — a practice that he would maintain and manage for 41 years.

Dr. Countryman was united in marriage to Dorothy Sue Bassham in 1961. Jim and Dorothy had three children (Dr. Carol Kutteh, Mark Countryman, and Maria Tillinghast).

Dedicated to both his profession and his alma mater, Dr. Countryman was involved with the university and its students. For years, he mentored OPSU students interested in veterinary medicine and hosted OPSU student athletes during the holidays. He was a Lifetime member of the Alumni Association and a Panhandle State Foundation board member serving as Foundation President twice.

Dr. Countryman was a supporter of both the Hooker and Guymon community. He was involved in the Hooker FFA, Guymon FFA, Guymon School Board, Memorial Hospital of Texas County Board of Control, Guymon Chamber of Commerce, Guymon Kiwanis Club and several booster clubs. In addition, he was an active member of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guymon for nearly fifty years serving in several capacities.

Dr. Jim Countryman passed away in June of 2013. Panhandle State Foundation thanks Jim's family and friends for honoring him through this scholarship. Dr. Countryman's legacy of service and generosity will inspire students of Panhandle State to reach their goals.