

# THE REED-MURRAY SCHOLARSHIP

AWARDED ANNUALLY BY THE

CERRO GORDO AMERICAN LEGION, POST #117

CERRO GORDO, ILLINOIS



**FLOSSIE C. REED**



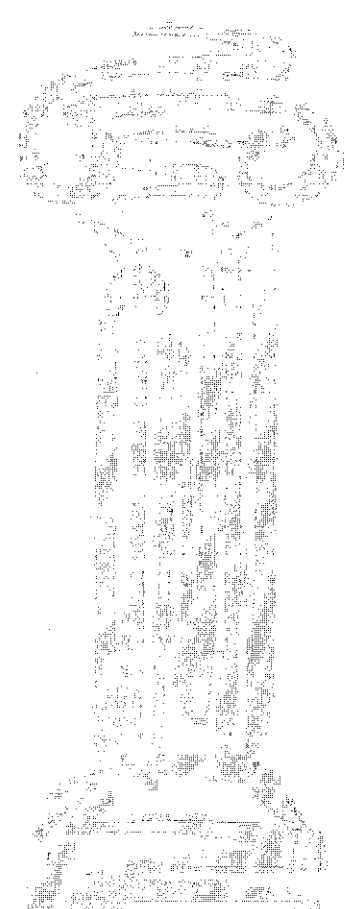
**M. IRENE MURRAY**

**SCHOLARSHIP  
APPLICATION**

# THE REED-MURRAY SCHOLARSHIP

The Reed-Murray Scholarship was established in 1999 to honor the memories of two distinguished former teachers in the Cerro Gordo, Illinois school system, Flossie C. Reed and M. Irene Murray. These two outstanding teachers not only shared a longtime friendship, they shared a deep love of education. It was their strongest desire in life to help young people pursue and achieve their goals, so it is only fitting that they be remembered through this memorial scholarship award program.

The Reed-Murray Scholarship is awarded annually by the American Legion, Post #117, Cerro Gordo, Illinois. This one-year scholarship award is for \$2,000 and is given to a graduating senior from Cerro Gordo High School who has been accepted by a two-year or four-year accredited institution of higher learning. While not a prerequisite for receiving the scholarship award, preference will be given to applicants whose ultimate goal is to obtain a Bachelors Degree in Education.



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## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- This completed application must be submitted by April 15 to — The Reed-Murray Scholarship Committee  
American Legion, Post #117  
Box 743  
Cerro Gordo, Illinois 61818.
- The Reed-Murray Scholarship Committee will make the final selection and award the \$2,000 scholarship following the recipient's commencement of college classes.
- Applicants must be admitted to a two-year or four-year accredited institution for the succeeding school year by no later than May 1.
- Along with this completed application, please submit three letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a faculty member, counselor, or administrator at Cerro Gordo High School, Cerro Gordo, Illinois. Letters of recommendation may be enclosed with your application or mailed directly to the scholarship committee at the above address, no later than April 15.
- Enclose a wallet size photo. The photo will **not** be returned.

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## **FLOSSIE C. REED**

Flossie C. Reed entered the world September 15, 1910, the second child born to Jess and May Woodard Mauer. The daughter of a tenant farmer, she grew up in the rural community of Kenney, Illinois and attended grammar school and high school in the town's only schoolhouse.

Flossie was a self motivated young girl and she embraced reading and music from an early age. Her love of education led her to college at Illinois State Normal University (which later became Illinois State University) where she pursued a degree in general education. She paid for her education by working while attending school and after graduation went on to teach in rural Kenney in a one-room school house for the next fifteen years.

In 1946, Flossie's life took a wonderful turn when she met Paul Reed, a farmer from Cerro Gordo, Illinois. On May 8, 1947 the two were married in Manhattan, Kansas and then returned to Cerro Gordo to start their life together. The first of their two sons, David, was born in 1948 and the second, Richard, was born not long after in 1951. For the next five years Flossie became a full time mother and wife, devoting her time to her sons and husband.

However, she never lost her love for the classroom and when her older son David started school in the fall of 1954, Flossie decided to return to teaching. An inspiration and loving mentor for her first grade students, she not only taught them how to read but also how to be better people. Flossie Reed always had a hug or an encouraging word for each child she taught. She loved spending time with her students and helped instill in them the self-esteem necessary for future success. Her sons, David (Class of 1966) and Richard (Class of 1969), both attended local schools and graduated from Cerro Gordo High School. After teaching for over 25 years in the Cerro Gordo school district, Flossie retired in 1972.

She stayed involved in the community after retirement as a member of the United Methodist Church of Cerro Gordo, the Platt County and Illinois Retired Teachers Associations, and the American Legion Auxiliary, Post #117. She passed away on January 25, 1995 in Monticello, Illinois after enjoying a lifetime devoted to teaching, her family, and four lovely grandchildren.

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## **M. IRENE MURRAY**

M. Irene Murray was born near Oblong, Illinois on January 27, 1912. Due to the premature death of her natural parents from tuberculosis, she was adopted and raised by Clarence and Carrie Walters, a farm couple from southwestern Indiana.

From an early age, Irene showed a very strong interest in reading and a natural love for books that stayed with her all of her adult life. Her adoptive parents were very supportive of her academic interests and encouraged her to pursue her education following elementary school and her graduation from nearby Graysville High School in Graysville, Indiana.

She entered college at Indiana State Teachers College (which later became Indiana State University) at Terre Haute, Indiana in 1932, paying her first semester's tuition with the proceeds from the sale of a pet pig she had raised on the family farm. Irene received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Indiana State University in 1936, graduating with a dual major in Education and Library Science.

She taught in southern Indiana from 1937 through 1944, first in Spencer and later in Huntingburg, Indiana. Early in her teaching career, she taught Mathematics, Health, Girl's Physical Education, and served as the school Librarian. After her marriage to Jesse M. Murray in 1943, she temporarily left teaching the following year and dedicated the next period of her life to raising her two sons, Thomas A. Murray, born in 1945 and David K. Murray, born in 1948. Her family moved to Cerro Gordo, Illinois from Decatur, Illinois in 1949. In 1957, she resumed her teaching career at Cerro Gordo High School. During her fifteen year tenure at Cerro Gordo, she taught English, Reading, and was the school's Librarian. She loved spending time in her library with individual students, helping them with their school projects and, quite often, serving as a personal mentor. One of her most important roles, however, was to help students perceive the value of higher education and how to go about achieving their future career goals. She found this to be one of the most rewarding aspects of her professional life. Her sons, Thomas (Class of 1963) and David (Class of 1966), both attended local schools and graduated from Cerro Gordo High School. After a twenty-two year teaching career, she retired in 1972.

Following retirement, she was an active member of the Cerro Gordo Church of the Brethren and the American Legion Auxiliary, Post #117, Cerro Gordo, Illinois. Most of all, she enjoyed time with her family and her four grandchildren. She passed away on March 13, 1985 at her home in Cerro Gordo.

# APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

College you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major \_\_\_\_\_

On the date this application is being submitted, are you accepted at this college for the succeeding school year?

Yes

No

Are you a member of the National Honor Society?

Yes

No

Other honors and achievements \_\_\_\_\_

High School GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Total SAT Score \_\_\_\_\_ (If available)

Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Total ACT Score \_\_\_\_\_ (If available)

List the names of the three individuals submitting letters of recommendation —

\_\_\_\_\_

Letter enclosed? Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_

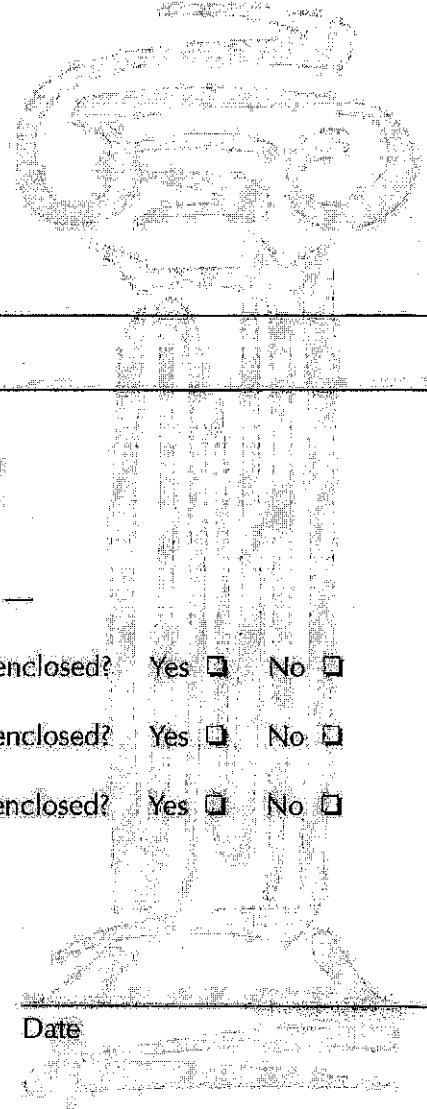
Letter enclosed? Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_

Letter enclosed? Yes  No

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



- Please respond to the following essay topics. Please type or write your responses legibly. Use a separate piece of paper, if necessary.

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## **STATEMENT OF GOALS**

Please provide a statement describing your educational, career, and personal goals:

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## **WHY SHOULD YOU BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP?**

Please state why you feel you should be selected as this year's recipient of The Reed-Murray Scholarship:

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## **ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS**

List below your extra-curricular activities and interests (include jobs, hobbies, sports, or participation in church, civic, and service organizations):