

# Linda J. Smith-Cope POW-MIA Scholarship



**Linda Joette Smith-Cope** (1950 – 2019), joined Rolling Thunder in 2006 participating actively until her death. Linda's brother, SFC Ronald E. Smith, served in Vietnam becoming among the missing and unaccounted for on November 28, 1970 while on a mission near the tri-border area of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Linda was passionate and dedicated her entire life to finding out the details surrounding the mission, and the whereabouts of her beloved brother. Linda faithfully carried on the mission of Rolling Thunder in educating the public on the POW-MIA issue. She authored the book *Still Waiting\** which chronicles her life growing up with her brother, and the years of agony in search for answers following her brother's missing-in-action declaration by the Department of Defense.

The Linda J. Smith-Cope POW-MIA Scholarship is sponsored by the **Rolling Thunder® Inc., Indiana Chapter #1.**

## **Mission Statement:**

The major function of Rolling Thunder®, Inc. is to publicize the POW-MIA issue. To educate the public that many American Prisoners of War were left behind after all previous wars and to help correct the past and to protect future Veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners of War-Missing In Action. We are also committed to helping American Veterans from all wars.

Rolling Thunder, Inc. is a non-profit organization, and everyone donates his or her time because they believe in the POW/MIA issue.

Established 2019

*\*Still Waiting*, published by Splattered Ink Press, ©2016.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Future Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Counselor Signature/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This scholarship is to honor Linda's spirit, and not only remember her brother Ronald E. Smith but all those that have yet to come home to family and friends from all past wars.

A \$500 scholarship is to be awarded annually (2020 to 2022) to a Covington Community High School, Covington, Indiana graduating senior seeking a higher education at an accredited College, University, or Trade School.

The student applying for the scholarship will be required to independently write a paper of not less than 500 words on any one of the following topics:

- What Freedom Means to Me
- Background and History of the POW Flag
- Your Family History of Military Service
- Why Do Nations Have a Military
- Patriotism

If a student wishes to write on a topic of their choice, the topics needs to be

submitted for prior approval to the school counselor and Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1.

Paper submission\*\* deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The paper will be judged by a select committee of Rolling Thunder® Inc., Indiana Chapter #1 members for excellence in subject matter discussion and presentation.

Winner announcement and scholarship award will made at senior awards night.

The student will need to present a copy of their letter for verification of acceptance to the school they have selected to attend. A check for \$500 will be issued to that school to be applied to cover any educational expenses as necessary.

\*\*Along with the paper, applicant's contact information and counselor endorsement attesting to the student's standing as a graduating senior is required. Please use 12 pt font and submit paper electronically.