One of the best-known Kansans of his time, Steve Harper left his mark on Kansas through photographs and words. During his career, he was a photojournalism instructor at Wichita State University, the Wichita Eagle’s photography editor and eventually, the newspaper’s outdoors writer and photographer.

Steve’s trademark works were photographs and articles working together on the natural beauty of Kansas. His series in the Eagle on Kansas day trips led to the publication of his popular book, “83,000 square Miles, No Lines, No Waiting.” His outdoor page was several times voted the best of its kind in the nation.

Sadly, Steve died of cancer on February 6, 2000, at the age of 55 in the same Newton house where he had grown up and raised three daughters.

The Steve Harper Memorial Scholarship was started at the suggestion of Governor Bill Graves, among others, as a way to honor Steve’s dedication to Kansans and serving the Kansas outdoors. As Steve would have wished, it’s presented to Kansas youth pursuing wildlife or nature-based careers at Kansas colleges, with Kansas-based career goals.

An excellent judge of character, Steve put as much stock in a person’s initiative and accomplishments as academic successes. The scholarship committee will give equal consideration to all three qualifications.

The scholarship is sponsored and funded by the Outdoors Writers of Kansas - a group of Steve’s friends and assorted journalists, photographers and artists dedicated to sharing the greatness of the Kansas outdoors through print, broadcast and online markets. For more information on the group, go to www.facebook.com/ksoutdoorcommunicators. The Kansas Wildscape Foundation is also assisting with the funding and administration of this scholarship.
**Eligibility**

The opportunity to be awarded this scholarship is available to:

A. Any graduating senior enrolled in a Kansas high school that plans to attend a four-year college or university in Kansas and study wildlife or nature-based curriculum including outdoor journalism.

B. University students enrolled in a wildlife or nature-based curriculum.

Scholarship award recipients are selected without regard to race, color, religion, or sex. Applicant chosen as the recipient of this scholarship will be required to show proof of full-time enrollment (minimum of 12 credit hours) in order to receive the scholarship funds.

**Evaluation Criteria**

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of past or current involvement in the wildlife or nature-based fields, strength of application, and academic performance.

**Applications**

Completed application and supporting documents must be returned to on or before April 15 to the following address:

Kansas Wildscape Foundation  
Attn: Outdoor Writers of Kansas Steve Harper Scholarship  
2500 W. 6th St., Suite G  
Lawrence, KS 66049

**Directions**

Applications must be typed or written neatly in ink. A letter of recommendation must accompany this application. The letter of recommendation may be from a teacher, counselor, coach or employer. Those hoping for careers writing about or photographing wildlife or nature should send examples of their works.

**Award**

The Steve Harper Scholarship Committee of the Outdoor Writers of Kansas will award the $1,000 scholarship, which is for one year and is a non-renewable award. If in the opinion of the selection committee, there are no qualified applicants, funds will be retained and will be used in subsequent years.
STEVE HARPER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
(Part I)

Name of applicant ______________________________________________________

Directions:
1. Type or write your information in black ink.

2. Return application forms to the Kansas Wildscape Foundation on or before April 15. 
   At least one letter of recommendation must be included with the application form 
   or the application will not be considered.

3. The Student Services Office will complete this section.
   a. Student’s Cumulative GPA_______________________________
   b. Class Rank___________________ Size of Class _________________

____________________________________
Guidance Counselor Signature

4. I give my permission for the release of this application, my transcript, GPA, and 
   Class Rank to the scholarship committee.

____________________________________
Student Signature

____________
Date

____________________________________
Guardian/parent signature

____________
Date
STEVE HARPER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
(Part II)

Name of Applicant_______________________________________________________

1. List important school honors, awards, offices held, etc., beginning with grade 10 to present.

2. List important out-of-school honors, awards, offices held, community service projects, etc. beginning with grade 10 to present.

3. Outline your past experience in wildlife or nature-based activities. Include your reasons for desiring to pursue your curriculum of study and your plans for using the education after your graduation from college.

5. List summer and/or part-time jobs you have held, beginning with grade 10 to the present. Indicate length of time each job was held.

6. Write a brief statement about your desire to continue your education (approximately 100 words or less)

7. Write a brief statement explaining your financial need for this scholarship; include any unusual circumstances. (approximately 100 words or less)

8. Name the post-secondary school you plan to attend next year. If you are considering more than one school, please rank them—list first choice first.

9. Why do you wish scholarship aid from the Steve Harper Scholarship Fund?

10. List your parents’/guardian’s present address. If parent/guardians reside at different addresses, please list primary address used.

    NAME: _____________________________________________________________________

    ADDRESS:_________________________________________________________________

    TELEPHONE:________________________________________________________________

    EMAIL:___________________________________________________________________