

# GIL TAIBER

EST.  
2019

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A FUND OF THE



COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
OF NORTHEAST IOWA

*here for good.*



## Gil Taiber

September 5, 2001 – May 30, 2019

Gil was smart, funny, and kind. He was gentle in spirit, sensitive, and hardworking, with a great future ahead of him. Since grade school, Gil was passionate about basketball. He played through school and AAU and practiced endlessly at open gyms, the local rec center, and Clay Street Park. After befriending several Janesville students, he transferred to Janesville High School in the spring semester of his junior year. Gil had high hopes for his senior year and the 2019-2020 basketball season. Gil worked at Maid Rite in Waterloo and Urban Pie in Cedar Falls, all while maintaining a 3.85 or above GPA.

The world lost an amazing son, brother, cousin, grandson, and friend in Gilmore “Gil” Nicholas Taiber when he died in a tragic car accident on May 30, 2019. Gil lost control of his car on a gravel road heading back to school after visiting his father, Jon, and girlfriend, Grace.

The Cedar Valley communities rallied around Gil and his family with an amazing party to celebrate Gil at the Riviera Roose Events Center in Janesville. Family, friends, teachers and administrators, basketball teammates and coaches, first responders, and strangers gathered; parking lots and roads overflowed as over 1,000 people paid their respects to Gil. This was not only a testament to Gil but also to the wonderful community that supported him and his family. Gil touched many people around the Cedar Valley and beyond.

Gil was born on September 5, 2001 in Chicago, IL, the son of Emily Allaire and Jonathan Taiber. In 2005, at the age of four, Gil’s mom, dad, older sister, Allaire, and younger brother, Egan, moved from Chicago to Cedar Falls to be closer to family and to be a part of a more connected and caring community. Gil attended Casa Montessori School, Lincoln Elementary, Holmes Jr. High, Cedar Falls High School, and Janesville High School.

*cont.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS FUND, CONTACT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHEAST IOWA AT 319-287-9106. ONLINE GIFTS CAN BE MADE TO THE GIL TAIBER SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT [CFNEIA.ORG](http://CFNEIA.ORG).

[FUND.CFNEIA.ORG/GILTAIBERSCHOLARSHIP](http://FUND.CFNEIA.ORG/GILTAIBERSCHOLARSHIP)



Gil's friends meant the world to him. In his younger years, Gil and his buddies were known to terrorize Cedar Falls on roller blades. A box of \$5 pizza in one hand, fishing pole in the other, and the JBL speaker in his backpack. In addition to many social gatherings, he loved fishing with his buddies in local ponds and rivers. He even went on a few deep-sea fishing excursions with his family. Gil loved snowboarding with his friends and family especially at Sundown Mountain and in the Rocky Mountains.

Gil is survived by his parents Jon Taiber, Emily Allaire, and Jason Gomes; siblings Egan and Allaire Taiber, Jordan, Olivia, and Iris Gomes; grandparents Tom and Sue Taiber, Doug and Ann Allaire, and Jean Gomes; as well as many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends – especially Grace Hovenga.

Through the Iowa Donor Network, Gil's tissues will help countless recipients in need of heart valves, skin, bones, parts of his eyes, and major arteries.

Gil had a light about him most of us can only try to imagine having, yet he carried it with grace and humility. He was employed, working hard in school, and in the process of being recruited by several colleges to play basketball and was planning to study finance or accounting. The Gil Taiber Scholarship Fund criteria emulates the hard work, dedication, and passion Gil had at the time of his death.



### Gil Taiber Scholarship Criteria

To carry on Gil's legacy, this scholarship is available to students meeting the following criteria.

- Graduating seniors of Janesville High School (Janesville, IA), Cedar Falls High School (Cedar Falls, IA), Waterloo East High School (Waterloo, IA), Waterloo West High School (Waterloo, IA), and Waverly-Shell Rock High School (Waverly, IA).
- A grade point average of 3.85 or higher (based on a 4.0 scale).
- Work experience, with preference for students who maintained employment during the school year. Additional preference goes to students who have maintained employment for multiple years.
- Have on-going participation in athletics during high school.
- Preference goes to students who demonstrate financial need.

*Criteria used for the first year's selection (2020) is as listed above with the following exceptions: Selection is limited to graduating seniors from Janesville High School (Janesville, IA), and the minimum grade point average requirement is waived.*

