This scholarship was created in the memory of my loving wife, Patricia Steele.

Pat was a public servant for over thirty years in Bolton Landing, New York. Pat was known for her incredible work ethics and dedication to the Town of Bolton Landing. Pat was elected and sworn in as the Town Clerk for the Town of Bolton Landing in 2008. Pat held that position until her unexpected passing on February 27, 2013.

Simultaneously with her duties as Town Clerk, Pat was also the local historian, enjoying collecting stories, photographs, and other treasures of the Bolton Landing/Lake George area. Pat assisted countless authors and scholars with their research, including Frank Leonbruno who published a popular book entitled *Lake George Reflections*. Pat also discovered several artifacts and now State historical landmarks dating back to the 1820s and the early settlement of the Bolton Landing area. One of her greatest discoveries was a baptismal stone from the 1800s used by Mormons of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints traveling thru the Adirondack mountain wilderness to the then new frontier out West.

Pat was extremely well-liked in the community not only as a public servant but also as a resident and neighbor. Pat was a friend to everyone, offering her listening ear, compassionate heart and advice when solicited. There was always coffee, a tea kettle on the stove, and a dessert on the countertop for anyone who just may pop in at the house for a visit and conversation. Her passing brought countless accolades from people of various backgrounds, near and far, most often sharing fond memories of Pat helping in one form or another. In front of her former office at the Town Hall in the Town of Bolton is a dedicated park bench and a Rose of Sharon tree, known in several faiths to symbolize love, beauty, and healing. Should you find your way ever to Bolton Landing, may I suggest that you take a moment and have a seat on the bench, and reflect as to how amazing and beautiful life is.

I am honoring Pat’s life and her attributes with this scholarship. I wish you endless success in all that you set out to do. As Pat did, live your life with love and beauty, do great work, give back to your community, and do what brings you such happiness. I guarantee that this is the recipe for success!

Please do keep in touch. I love to hear of other people’s adventures and journeys, especially from those that I have had the most pleasure of helping, even if just a little bit.

Sincerely,

William E. Steele

Email: billsteele1936@gmail.com