

## **ELLEN BENGTSON**

## MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND





Ellen Sigrid Marie Bengtson

October 8, 1991 - August 2, 2020

In addition to being a Charles City Rotary Club member and an environmental engineer at Cambrex Charles City, Inc, Ellen Bengtson was an amazing daughter, sister, and friend. Her life ended in a tragic bicycle accident near Charles City, Iowa on August 2, 2020.

Ellen Sigrid Marie Bengtson was born October 8, 1991 in Richland, Washington, the daughter of Peter and Jo Ann Bengtson. Ellen grew up in Richland where she graduated from Richland High School in 2010 and was a 2010 Rotary Scholarship Recipient. She also received a high school diploma from Stanford University's online high school through the Education Program for Gifted Youth.

Ellen went on to earn her Bachelor's Degree in chemical engineering from Yale University (2014) and her Master's Degree (2019) in chemical engineering from Columbia University in New York. She began her career as an environmental engineer at Cambrex in 2015.

Prior to Cambrex, her positions included: Research Assistant at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (2011); Research Assistant at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (2012); Chemical Engineering Intern at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (2014); and Knowledge Management Intern at Bayer HealthCare in Leverkusen, Germany (2014).

Ellen had a passion for music and began playing piano and double bass at a young age. She performed with many groups including in the Mid-Columbia Symphony, and most recently in

the Charles City Community Chamber Orchestra. She was an active member of Bethany Alliance Church and she dedicated her time as a math tutor among the refugee community.

Ellen was also an outdoor enthusiast, an avid hiker and biker. Her lifelong love of learning went hand-in-hand with her love of reading and she enjoyed travel, visiting 16 countries on three continents.

Ellen is survived by her parents, Peter and Jo Ann Bengtson, and her younger sister, Susan Bengtson.

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In honor of Ellen's academic achievements and love of learning, the Ellen Bengtson Memorial Scholarship has been established to create a positive impact and help women reach their highest potential in the fields of engineering, chemistry, and math.

## **Ellen Bengtson Memorial Scholarship Criteria**

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

- Female students pursing a degree in engineering, chemistry, or math at an accredited post-secondary institution.
- Graduating senior or graduate of a high school located in Floyd County, Iowa, or an employee or dependent of an employee at Cambrex Charles City, Inc., located in Charles City, Iowa.
- Preference to students who demonstrate high academic achievement, demonstrate financial need, and/or are involved in community service.

