

## The Tim Jensen Memorial Award

The Tim Jensen Memorial Award was established in 1985 to honor the memory of Tim Jensen, a 1977 graduate of Palmyra High School, by his brothers Larry Jensen and Ken Jensen. There is a one-time stipend paid to a post high school institution of recipient's choosing.

Tim Jensen was an exceptional student and an exceptional young man in every way. Throughout his high school years, Tim was a student with a purpose, a goal, knew what he wanted from life and the sacrifices one must make to achieve his goals. He was academically talented; active in sports including football, basketball, and track; and very involved in the fine arts of music and speech. Tim was a leader in the school and served as president of his senior class. He delivered the graduation speech for the Class of 1977.

Tim wanted more than anything to be a pilot and attend the United States Air Force Academy. He knew he had a bad back and feared the further injury to his back would lessen his chances of reaching his goal of attending the Air Force Academy. He sacrificed football, a sport he loved, to protect his "Jensen Back." In Tim's true spirit, he became the student manager of the football team since he could no longer play.

Tim had submitted an application for an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, Virginia just in case he could not pass the physical for the Air Force Academy because of his back. When he could not pass the physical for the Air Force Academy, Tim accepted an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point where he graduated as a top student and a leader of many campus activities in 1981. He was a member of the Cadet Glee Club, Cadet Chapel Choir, Aero-Astro Club, the Dialectic Club, and he started the ADDIC Council. The West Point Yearbook said of Tim, "To compliment his talents, Tim's initiative has taken him to the top of all his endeavors. Whether it be excelling in academics or the ADDIC Council, TJ Leads the way."

After graduation from West Point, Tim was trained as a rotary wing aviator and an instructor pilot. He achieved the rank of captain and served as the Commander of the Air Traffic Control Company, U.S. Army Information Systems Command Signal Battalion. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Service Ribbon and the Army Aviator Badge. On February 15, 1985, Captain Tim A. Jensen Died in a helicopter accident at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

The Tim Jensen Award was established to honor the memory and the spirit of Tim Jensen by recognizing graduating seniors from Palmyra High School who most exemplify the same level of excellence in academics, athletics, and fine arts as he did. The recipient of this honor is determined by an impartial selection process using a formula that utilizes the afore mentioned activities.

