



Jim Thompson Memorial Ag Scholarship

This scholarship was established in April 2016 by Jeff Bloom '75 and Tom Bloom '86 of Lake County International, honoring their former employee and friend, Jim Thompson, who passed away on April 6, 2016. Jim, a 1956 graduate of Madison High School, married Bertie Poppen '61 and entered the U.S. Army. In 1963, he went to work for Lake County International for the Bloom Family. Even after his retirement in 2000, Jim continued to work part-time at Lake County International. Jeff Bloom said, "Jim loved working with area farmers and this scholarship is a good way in which to remember him." Tom Bloom added, "This scholarship endowment is a fitting way to honor Jim's career and his affiliation with Madison High School." Jim and his wife, Bertie, their children, David Thompson '82 and Carol Thompson Barger '85, and grandsons, Nate Barger '15 and Nick Barger '17, are all alumni of Madison High School. Both Nate and Nick participated in FFA for four years in high school. The Thompson and Barger families are also contributors of the Jim Thompson Memorial Ag Scholarship fund.

This scholarship will be awarded to MHS seniors planning to attend college or trade school to pursue a career in the agriculture industry, who are in good standing, with a demonstrated participation in high school Ag classes and FFA activities. GPA is not the primary consideration. A preference will be given to students with financial need. One letter of recommendation from a non-relative is also required.