Deb Duethorn Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Deb Duethorn Memorial Scholarship Fund is provided through the Central New York Community Foundation in memory of one of Onondaga County’s most remarkable professional young women. Duethorn, whose untimely death occurred in the summer of 1996, was not only a gifted registered flight nurse, but also an outstanding paramedic who gave tens of thousands of hours of prehospital emergency medical care to her patients. Sergeant Duethorn was the first woman member of the Onondaga County Sheriffs’ Department SWAT team. She was also a courageous firefighter with the Belgium Cold Springs Volunteer Fire Department. Duethorn however, was perhaps best known in her role as an educator. She embodied the word “teacher,” whether at the police academy with recruits, at the seminars and paramedic courses she presented, or in everyday encounters where she quietly and patiently taught one-on-one. Whether in jeans and a T-shirt (her preference), flightsuit or duty uniform, Duethorn forever touched the lives of her family, friends, co-workers and patients. Slightly irreverent about social convention, Duethorn’s wit and sense of humor left their imprint on all who experienced the gift of knowing her.

This scholarship in memoriam of Duethorn has been awarded to at least one recipient per year since 1999. Application information can be found at: www.cnyems.org.

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide assistance to people currently service the public in fields of nursing, EMS, law enforcement, and firefighting. Contributions can be made to this Scholarship Fund through the Central New York Community Foundation, 500 South Salina Street, Suite 428, Syracuse, NY 13202-3302. All contributions are tax deductible.