Kurt Wesley Finkbeiner was born on September 1, 1967 in Pasco, Washington. He was reared and educated at Wenatchee and Waterville, Washington. He graduated from Waterville High School in 1985 where he was awarded “Boy of the Year” honors during his senior year.

He attended Northwest Nazarene College where he served as Student Body Vice-President during his junior year and in 1988-89 as Student Body President. He was elected to Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities and was elected co-chair of the Nazarene Student Leadership Conference. He was a member of the Northwesterners. His classmates voted him “most likely to be future President of Northwest Nazarene College.”

On June 10, 1989 Kurt lost his life in a drowning accident, just prior to graduation ceremonies where he was to receive a degree in Accounting and Business Administration. He is survived by his parents, Ted and Sue Finkbeiner; a sister and brother-in-law, Karla and Fred Slonaker; and two brothers, Kenneth and Kieith.

Dr. Gordon Wetmore, NNC President, said, “Kurt Finkbeiner was a young man who lived and exemplified the highest ideals of Northwest Nazarene College. As President of the student body, he initiated programs for recognition of outstanding faculty. He gathered around him a group of outstanding student leaders who set the pace for student development. His lived-out commitment to Christ, his model, will be a standard for future students to follow. NNC and the Treasure Valley will be better places because of Kurt Finkbeiner.”

Criteria for awarding of scholarship

1. Awards are to be made to students who are planning to major in business administration or accounting and have clearly defined career goals in these areas.

2. Although preference shall be given to new students, awards may be made to continuing students, up to a maximum of four years.

3. Applicants must show identity with the mission and purpose of NNC.

4. Nominations shall be made by the Department of Business to the Financial Aid Office for approval by the Scholarship Committee.

5. Students must be full-time, have a minimum 3.0 GPA, and meet other general scholarship requirements.