The children and grandchildren of the late Walter Guelcher and his wife, Florence Carey Guelcher, established a scholarship in their honor in 2001. The Guelchers, both lifelong Erie residents, worked and contributed to the community through their generosity of self, spirit and resources. The Guelcher family was inspired to honor Walter and Florence after reflecting on their role as bearers of the same responsibility Mr. and Mrs. Guelcher embraced so readily: to give of oneself to improve the lives of those who can be affected by that gift.

It is intended that the recipient of the scholarship should represent not only the generosity exhibited by its namesake, but also strength of character, faith and an exemplary academic record. Both Walter and Florence instilled in their family the importance of education. Out of that shared family value came the desire to support a student who best exhibits the qualities Walter and Florence epitomize, and which are held in such high esteem by their children and grandchildren.

Amount: To be determined on an annual basis

Eligibility: Applicants must be students of Gannon University enrolled in the Engineering Program. They also are required to have graduated from a high school in Erie County.

Criteria: Students applying must:
1. Have a minimum GPA of 3.0
2. Be active in their faith
3. Exhibit high moral character

Each applicant is to submit an essay 750-1000 words in length describing why they feel they should receive this scholarship. It should clearly show why they are the best choice for the grant. The essay must be written using proper grammar and spelling, something about which Walter Guelcher felt very strongly.

To Apply: Contact the Financial Aid Office at Gannon University or download from website.

Applications must be completed and returned to:

The Erie Community Foundation
459 West Sixth Street
Erie, PA 16507

Application Deadline: April 29