Dennis Elroy Barry Memorial Scholarship
Greater Worcester Community Foundation

When Dennis Barry died unexpectedly in 2004 at the age of 29, he left many grieving friends, including Joycelyn Augustus. Joycelyn created this scholarship to honor Dennis and celebrate his passion for helping others. The scholarship is awarded to students who plan to pursue a career in social services, counseling, or public interest law.

Dennis was born on the island of St. Thomas (U.S. Virgin Islands), and grew up on Anguilla (British West Indies). Dennis attended Doherty High School in Worcester, and later graduated from Framingham State College and the University of the Virgin Islands in Saint Thomas. Dennis also earned a Master’s in Psychology from Barry University in Miami, Florida, specializing in Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapy.

Dennis worked at Barry University as an Adjunct Professor and academic advisor. He pursued his doctorate while working full-time and dedicating himself to his students. He particularly supported migrant students, encouraging them, lifting their spirits, and pointing them toward career possibilities. His goal was to connect all students with the same opportunities he had received, and he always expected nothing less than success. Dennis believed that “life is too short, and we worry about the wrong things.” Throughout his life, he inspired people with his kindness and passion for social justice.

Joycelyn invites scholarship recipients to “pass it on” by making a donation, when they are able, to the Dennis Elroy Barry Memorial Scholarship Fund, to assist future students with their educational pursuits.

For more information, please contact:
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