



*The Wingman Foundation*  
LCDR Charles "JTACz" Walker  
Memorial Scholar



Patrick Gilbert  
Fairfax, VA

Sponsor: LCDR Shannon Gilbert II

College: Rocky Mountain College

2022-2023: Freshman

Major: Aeronautical Science

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Scouts of America: Asst Senior Patrol Leader: 11<sup>th</sup> grade Patrol Leader: 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Project
- Varsity Track & Field
- Varsity Football
- Marching Band
- NV Pools: Lifeguard

I am thrilled and honored to receive a Wings Over America Scholarship. I am attending Rocky Mountain College in Billings, MT this fall pursuing a major in Aeronautical Science with their professional pilot program, thus allowing me to achieve my goal of becoming a commercial airline pilot with the minimum required hours. I first discovered my love of aviation through my father's Naval Aviation service. My dad would take me to all the Blue Angel air shows on base and to any Naval Aviation Museum in the area. This sparked within me the desire to fly and learn everything I could about aviation. I enjoyed flying so much, that I am already working on my private pilot license and should complete the FAA check ride in June. Pursuing a career in aviation in college is extremely tough because of the additional costs of flying on top of the college tuition. By receiving this scholarship, the funds will help ease the financial burden on both me and my parents, thus making my goal more within reach. I can now concentrate on my college studies and begin the long process of achieving all the FAA required licenses to fly with less of the worry about the costs and how to pay for it all. Thank you so much for this honor.