



RADM Jack Godlewski Memorial Scholar

Gabe Holmes
Virginia Beach, VA

Sponsor: CAPT Robert Holmes

College: Virginia Tech

2023-2024: Freshman

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Academic & Extracurricular Highlights:

- Math Honors Society: Treasurer 12th grade
- National Honor Society
- Varsity Tennis: Captain
- Cinematography Club: VP (11th) & President (12th)
- Student Council Association General Assembly
- Internship: NAS Oceana Hush House



If I were to describe my college experience thus far with one word it would be “Uncertainty”. I was uncertain if I would get into my dream college. Once accepted, I was uncertain about where I was going to live and who I would spend my first year living with. Now leaves the last and arguably one of the biggest uncertainties that I face: How to actually pay for college. Although I am lucky to have a few AP credits, my tuition alone for freshman year is more than I could have ever imagined. The capability to reduce this expense with the WOASF Scholarship allows both my parents and I to worry less about financing college and more about making sure I excel in my freshman year so I can secure a spot in the aerospace engineering program. The meaning of this scholarship to me also goes far beyond any monetary value. Having moved eight times before the age of 15 and watching my father leave for numerous six- plus month deployments, it is not only encouraging but gives me a great sense of gratitude and appreciation to know that this foundation supports furthering the education of both service men/ women and their families.