

## **ORKAN OLGAC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Orkan Olgac (a.k.a. Chris Rogers) graduated from the University of Connecticut in December 2020 with a Bachelor's degree in Healthcare Management and a minor in Analytics in the Honors Program. Graduating with a 4.0 GPA and as the President of the university's Health Care Management Society (HCMS) as well as the International Business

Association, Orkan was a true leader in campus life radiating an intense enthusiasm and discipline. He always found a way to connect with people, helping them find their passions the way he found his. His untimely passing early in 2021 prompted an effort by his family and friends to initiate this scholarship fund. Hoping the dynamism, work ethics and selfless contributions Orkan exhibited throughout his student years will be remembered to eternity, we wish to congratulate the select recipients of the awards.

## ELIGIBILITY

- 1. The recipient must be a Junior or Senior majoring in the Healthcare Management Program of the UCONN School of Business.
- 2. Evidence of leadership skills is required.
- 3. Awardee is expected to have a GPA of 3.7 or higher at the time of selection.
- 4. Preference is given to graduates of E.O. Smith High School in Mansfield, CT. If no eligible student is found, recipient must still be a Connecticut high school graduate.
- 5. The award is not renewable.

## ORKAN OLGAC MEMORIAL FUND

**DONATE** using one of the following options:

1. Paypal Account Email: Orkan.Olgac.Memorial.Fund@gmail.com First Name: OrkanOlgacMemorial; Last Name: Fund

2. Venmo: @OrkanOlgacMemorialFund



All donations will be invested through the Fidelity Charitable account shown in the box above (<a href="https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/about-us.html">https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/about-us.html</a>). The quarterly activities in this account will be posted on this website, as well as the scholarship disbursement news.

## ❖ HIS STORY

Orkan Olgac (a.k.a. Chris Rogers), 21, passed away on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 in Seaside Park, NJ. He was a son, a brother, and a one-of-a-kind friend. His many academic achievements in school were always complemented by his adventures outside of school. At the age of 19, he set out on a trip to Iceland, unaccompanied, destined to see the world through his own eyes. Though he travelled alone, he always managed to find allies along the way which blossomed into exceptional friendships. Soon after, he participated in an internship working with the health care insurance company Aetna in Jacksonville, Florida where he was assigned to a corporation-wide cost saving project with recognized success. Taking in the raw excitement of the health care management field, Orkan was determined to learn more. He spent the summer of 2020 working at an internship for the University of Colorado's Health Care Management Program, while also making sure to thoroughly explore Denver's terrain in his free time.

During the pandemic, Orkan was leading HCMS meetings in his house. His family witnessed the spark this subject lit within his eyes and the passion he had for it in his heart. Driven by his work, Orkan naturally had a way of connecting to people. The first few attributes his peers could immediately notice in him were charisma, intelligence, and a genuine interest in the subject at hand. Moreover, he cared for others and whole-heartedly listened to them when they needed someone to rely on. He knew exactly what to say to boost their confidence and make them feel capable. When it came to making big career decisions, a second opinion from Orkan was particularly meaningful. He had a true gift for uplifting people around him and making them feel important.

He was also a naturalist, a seeker of beautiful sunrises, and an avid sportsman. His natural athleticism was always matched with an incredible work ethic. In his high school years at E.O. Smith High School, Mansfield, CT he played soccer, becoming the only freshmen member on the varsity team. His friends recall how he would be on the track nearly every single day, practicing the 2-mile run the summer before tryouts. He also ran for the school's cross-country team and track team, competing at the state level from his very first season, later becoming the team captain. Through college, he continued to maintain his fitness with an admirable discipline. He was always ready for a competition with his friends, but in handstands, arm wrestling, and underwater breath-holding, the winner was clear from the start.

Despite his astonishing achievements at such a young age, he stayed humble, respectful, and constantly in awe of others' success, using them as motivation and guidance. In addition, he knew how to transition the attention from himself to others, only hoping to help them reach their goals and find their paths as well. He is missed dearly by those who knew him and those he touched. His memory will remain through sharing stories about his accomplishments, adventures and charismatic moments.