William Robert Smith was born in Peoria, IL on Feb 22, 1980.

Billy Smith grew up in Freeport, IL where he played both football and baseball, playing baseball all four years in high school. In his senior year he actually pitched a No Hitter! Billy's “no-no” was the last one until 2009.

After graduating in 1998, Billy attended Highland Community College and played baseball for 2 years. He stayed at the community college another year so he could coach.

Billy's last job was working as a carpenter for Don Miller Construction, Inc. based out of Pecatonica, IL. He enjoyed being a carpenter because he felt it was very hands-on. He also enjoyed going to various houses to work because he always found something he wanted to incorporate into the home he was hoping to build someday. During the summers, Billy spent most of his nights playing softball, and serving as an umpire for the high school boys league. He loved doing both of these things.

He also loved golf, the Bears, the Cubs, and bowling on his Thursday night league. Other hobbies including traveling with his wife and playing fetch with his three dogs. This scholarship was established because Billy was always helping people in any way that he could. It is a sport-related scholarship because it memorializes the activities Billy loved most.

**Applicant Must:**

- Be a graduating high school senior in Winnebago, Boone, Ogle or Stephenson Counties;
- Have played at least three years of baseball or softball in high school, including his/her senior year;
- Major in a sports related field in college; and
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0/4.0.

**TO APPLY:** Visit [cfnil.org/scholarships](http://cfnil.org/scholarships) and follow the instructions under “How to Register & Apply”.

When you’re ready, look for the ✨ Application Portal link to start your application.

CFNIL’s online application will automatically match you to every one of CFNIL’s 90+ scholarships for which you are eligible. CFNIL awards more than $300,000 in scholarships every year. The deadline for scholarship applications is February 1.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Ciara Stahly at 779-210-8209 or cstahly@cfnil.org.

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