

ATHLETIC AWARD

IN MEMORY OF

Kristen Viola Ryan

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**This award is presented to a female student who has shown
Sportsmanship and team leadership
in volleyball, softball, or track and field.**



Small steps, big dreams ...

The Kristen Ryan Memorial Bursary

Kristen was a lifelong resident of Port Hastings. She was a gorgeous girl with a charming smile, and had a wonderful laugh that was contagious. She had the greatest respect for life and people in general. She had a great sense of humor, easy going and modest with an even greater sense of adventure. A joy in everyone's eyes an inspiration to many.

Although she didn't live a long life, passing away at the tender age of twenty three, she accomplished a lot growing up a young Cape Breton girl. True to her roots she took up step dancing, fiddle, and piano. As a member of the Cape Breton Fiddlers association she would entertain at many concerts and events, Celtic Colors, Breakfast Television and the ceillidh at the creamery to name a few. Kristen would often volunteer her time at the senior citizens complex, where she would entertain the crowd with her lively steps and uplifting fiddle tunes, something she loved doing.

Kristen had a passion for sports, Volleyball, Softball; Track & Field were the sports that Kristen excelled in. Kristen was an outstanding athlete at SAERC winning Volleyball, Softball and Track & Field Championships, and female athlete of the year.

Kristen's athletic career did not end at SAERC. Standing 5'2 she did something most people would consider not probable, she made the N.S under eighteen and the N.S Canada Games Volleyball teams and was recruited by CBU, where she played five years in the Atlantic Univ.Sport, being selected to the 1st & 2nd all-star teams and named Libero of the year. An award that two years later would be renamed the Kristen Ryan Memorial Award in her honor.

Kristen also excelled at softball winning a Provincial and Atlantic title competing at Eastern Canadians.

Kristen was a fun loving person who cared deeply about her friends and family. She left a legacy of compassion and determination. On October 27, 2012 she would have graduated from Cape Breton Univ. With a Bachelor of Arts in Community Studies. Her favorite quote was "Small Steps-Big Dreams" which she had tattooed on her side and now many of her friends have honored her memory by doing the same.

"SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND, BABY GIRL"



