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AFE Memorial Scholarship Established for Bob Gunther

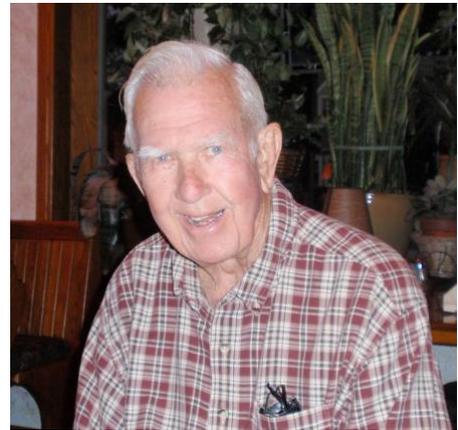
ALEXANDRIA, VA – Jan. 18, 2018 – The [American Floral Endowment \(AFE\)](#) announces that a new scholarship has been established in memory of the late Bob Gunther, owner of Gunther's Greenhouses & Florist in Oceanside, New York.

The **Long Island Flower Growers Association – Bob Gunther Memorial Scholarship** is intended for students from Long Island and New York who are studying ornamental horticulture at a community college or four-year institution in New York.

This includes floriculture, landscape maintenance, landscape design, turf and any other courses of study related to ornamental horticulture.

One student will be awarded this scholarship annually.

Robert Edward "Bob" Gunther was treasurer for the [Long Island Flower Growers Association \(LIFGA\)](#) for many years and instrumental in the establishment of LIFGA's first scholarship.



Bob Gunther

Gunther received the Lifetime Achievement Award from LIFGA, where he also served as a board member.

He and his brother Fred took over the family business after his father passed away in 1969.

Originally a cut flower grower of sweet peas, carnations and chrysanthemum, Gunther's Greenhouses & Florist transitioned into holiday plants, hanging baskets and annuals as the local market conditions changed. They supplied many of the local schools and churches with plant sale materials.

Bob ran the business up until the time of his passing in 2015 at the age of 85.

"Bob was a longtime member of LIFGA and believed that it was the organization's responsibility to promote and support the training of students for the benefit of the floriculture industry," said Dr. Mark Bridgen, president of LIFGA.

"That's why LIFGA and Bob's family wanted to honor him and establish this scholarship in his memory."

AFE awards more than 20 scholarships annually to undergraduate and graduate students, and the application deadline is May 1 each year.

To learn more and see the list of 2017 scholarship recipients, visit [endowment.org/scholarships](https://www.endowment.org/scholarships).

About AFE

The American Floral Endowment is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the floriculture and horticulture industry through funding research, educational grants and scholarships. Since 1961, more than \$15 million has been funded in research and educational projects, and more than \$2 million has been funded in scholarships and internships designed to attract and retain the future leaders of the industry. To learn more about AFE or make a tax-deductible contribution, visit www.endowment.org.

