

## Crosson family endows Stony Brook journalism scholarship

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The [Stony Brook University School of Journalism](#) is using a \$50,000 gift from Elaine Crosson and her son Daniel to create the Matthew T. Crosson Memorial Scholarship in Journalism.

The donation, which includes contributions from Crosson's family and friends, will be matched by a \$50,000 grant from the Simons Foundation.

The scholarship will be used to support "young journalists who wish to carry on the pursuit of public affairs journalism and advance public discourse," according to Stony Brook.

"This scholarship will be invaluable in supporting students, year-after-year, whose passion will be to pursue reporting in the public interest," Journalism School Dean Howard Schneider said in a written statement. "I can think of nothing more important."

An attorney by training and trade, Crosson went on to serve as chief administrator for the New York State court system before becoming president of the Long Island Association for 16 years.



Matt Crosson

[Crosson died unexpectedly on Dec. 23, 2010](#) at age 61 from complications following a stroke. He had resigned from the LIA earlier that year to accept a job as CEO of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.

Following his death, Elaine and Dan, who is now 14, moved back to their Long Island home, after [Elaine accepted a position at Stony Brook University](#) as vice president for external relations.

A well spoken advocate for Long Island, Matt Crosson was a familiar presence to Long Islanders, presenting a calm, reasoned approach to a wide range of issues.

In addition to his presence at many forums and meetings, he also was the co-host of the public affairs program "Cutting Edge," which dealt with issues affecting Long Island.

Elaine Crosson said her husband's "appreciation for the written word and his belief in responsible journalism," lead to the decision to endow a journalism scholarship.

She added that in addition to seeking to advance economic development for Long Island, he sought to promote discussion of "the most pressing current affairs issues facing this community and all of New York by engaging some of the most relevant public figures and luminaries in our country in a personal dialogue right here in our own back yard."

The scholarship will be available to a full-time junior or senior enrolled in the School of Journalism at Stony Brook University, where Jim Klurfeld, Crosson's friend and "Cutting Edge" co-host, is a professor.

Stony Brook said the recipient must show a desire to pursue a career in journalism with a particular interest in public affairs.

The winner also have the opportunity to intern at Newsday, News 12 Long Island and Newsday.com or a rotating internship at all three news outlets.

One recipient per year as of the fall 2013 semester will be chosen by a committee appointed by Schneider.

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