



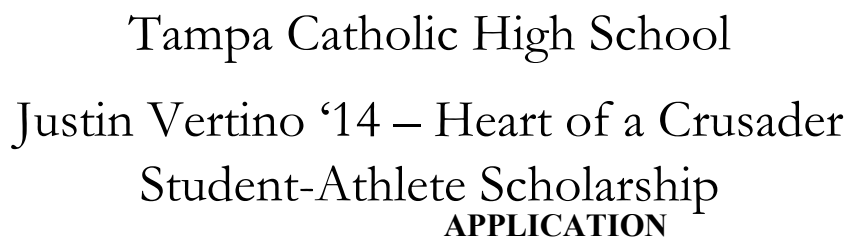
Tampa Catholic High School

Justin Vertino '14 – Heart of a Crusader Student-Athlete Scholarship



Justin Vertino '14 was an exceptional student-athlete. During his time at Tampa Catholic, he encouraged other student-athletes to work hard and reach their full potential on and off the field. The recipient(s) of this scholarship brings out the very best in their fellow students and teammates, serving as a role model, advocate, friend, competitor, and servant leader. He or she demonstrates the greatest work ethic, the most enthusiasm, and displays a selfless attitude committed to the overall goals of the classroom and team. He or she also exemplifies the highest standards of sportsmanship, integrity, class, humility, and honor in both times of defeat and times of success.

- Criteria:** Freshman, Sophomore or Junior Student-Athlete with 3.5 weighted grade point average. Awarded to the top 2 candidates based on their application with equal opportunity for girls and boys. Income is not considered, character is.
- Selection:** Applications are welcome from August 24th to September 14th , 2026. Recipients are selected by the Vertino family with approval from the Principal, after review of application and associated essays.
- Award:** \$2,500 yearly scholarship to be applied to the yearly balance of the recipient's tuition. Award to be presented to recipient(s) at a school Mass during the month of August/September.
- Renewal:** Renewals of the scholarship will be automatic if the student maintains a 3.5 weighted GPA average and has an exemplary discipline and attendance record at Tampa Catholic as approved by the Dean of Students.
- The Vertino family requests updates from the recipient(s) at the end of each semester (2 times yearly). These updates may be submitted to the school principal in January and June and will be sent directly to the Vertino family.
- History:** Established by the family of Justin Vertino '14
- Contact:** Tampa Catholic – Jerry Rodriguez – 813-870-0860 ext. 232 – JRodriguez@tampacatholic.org

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Please answer the following essay questions in 2 paragraphs or more:

You may use a separate sheet of paper if needed.

Justin Vertino was a part of a large and loving family at home, at school, and on the field. What does Family mean to you?

Justin Vertino made an impact every day in school, with his teammates and in his community. Tell us about a time in your life where you had the opportunity to make an impact on someone's life or in your community.

I certify that all information given on this application is true and correct and that I did not receive aid/assistance, beyond the help of my parents, in completing this application.

Student

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Turn in this completed form and essay to the
Advancement Office in the Center for Student
Services by **September 14th.****

For School Use Only:

School Counselor -

Is the applicant academically qualified for this award (3.5 or higher weighted GPA)? _____

Recommendations or comments:

Dean of Students -

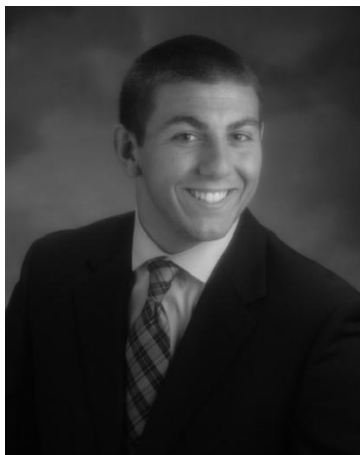
Does this applicant possess an exemplary discipline and attendance record? _____

Recommendations or comments:



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Justin Michael Vertino, of Tampa, Florida, sadly passed away on September 4, 2022, at the young age of 27. He is survived by his loving parents, Laurie and James Vertino and his younger brother, Anthony Vertino '16.

Justin was born in Buffalo, NY on July 25, 1995, but the family's adventures took him to Allentown, PA., Springboro, OH., and finally to Tampa, FL. He made many new friends in all the places he went, and kept his friends in all the places he left.

Justin was an excellent student and athlete and after graduating Tampa Catholic High School in 2014, Justin went on to receive his bachelor's degree at Florida State University in 2018.

After college, Justin began his career in the health insurance industry at Veracity Benefits where he spent his remaining years in a number of roles including Associate, Account Manager, and Reporting Business Analyst.

Justin enjoyed playing football, lacrosse, soccer, and golf, as well as playing video games.

More than any of these facts can say, Justin was the most caring individual anyone knew. He was always there to take on any burden of his friends or family, help anyone in need, and support anyone around him no matter the personal sacrifice. He would literally give you the shirt off his back or the last dollar in his pocket. Justin's huge smile was infectious, and his hugs were epic.