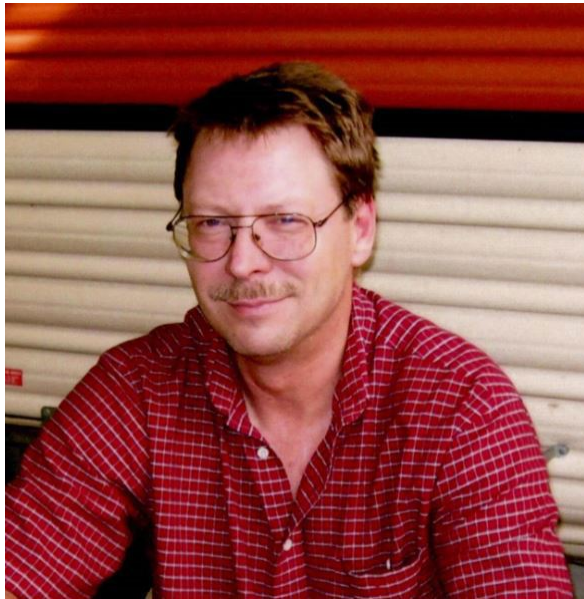


**Subject:** Alumni's Remarkable Gift: \$1 Million Boosts Manufacturing Program



## Alumni Spotlight: A Generous Gift



### **Ray Johnson - Ridgewater Alumni Leaves \$1 Million to Ridgewater College for Manufacturing Scholarships**

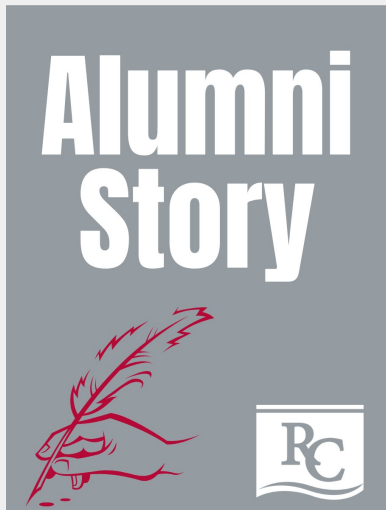
*"When Ray Johnson, formerly of Cosmos, enrolled in the Machine Tool program in 1981 at Ridgewater College (then Willmar Area Vocational Technical Institute), he likely had no idea what an impact it would have on his life. Once he launched and owned JMD Manufacturing of Willmar for 32 years, Johnson knew he wanted to give back to his alma mater to help change other people's lives as well.*

*He just probably didn't anticipate it would happen before he retired. Johnson, most recently from Kandiyohi, died from cancer June 30, 2023, at the age of 61.*

*His legacy will live on though. Beginning Fall Semester 2024, Ridgewater students in manufacturing programs will be eligible to apply for the first Ray Johnson Memorial Scholarships for Spring Semester 2025. Johnson's \$1 million estate donation is the largest donation on record for the Ridgewater College Foundation, according to Foundation Executive Director Kelly Magnuson."*

[Click here to read more..](#)

## Every Ridgewater student has a voice - tell us YOUR story!



What have you been up to post-college? We would love to hear about your career path and where you are now!

YOUR story can provide inspiration to current students, prospective students, employees, and fellow Ridgewater alumni.

**Help tell the Ridgewater story!**

[Share My Story](#)

[Update My Info](#)

## Celebration of Giving: A Scholarship Event



Each year, scholarship recipients are recognized at a Ridgewater College Foundation scholarship event held on both campuses. Donors get the opportunity to meet with their student recipients and create a connection. This year, the foundation recognized **Elaine Adams, Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, Midwest Industrial Tool Grinding, Inc,** and **Gene Haas Foundation** for the impact of their donations on our students. Without the support of our community, our foundation would not be where it is today.

### Students Shine: Cool Things Happening!



**Veterinary Technology Department**  
Pictured to the left is second year student Kristina working on this patients teeth in surgery class. February was National Pet Dental Health Month, so check out this link to learn more about your furry friends dental health. <https://www.avma.org/events/national-pet-dental-health-month>



**Massage Therapy Department**  
In our massage therapy program, they delved into the hands-on world of body wraps, making the learning experience both enriching and enjoyable. The session provided students with a unique opportunity to explore various techniques using Biotone wraps, turning the classroom into a dynamic and interactive learning space. By combining theoretical knowledge with practical application, our massage therapy education program ensures that students are well-equipped to provide effective and customized treatments that contribute to the overall well-being of their clients.



### Nursing Department

Our nursing students visited Grand Meadows - Glencoe, creating heartwarming connections through personalized one-on-one visits. They applied theoretical knowledge in real-world scenarios, enhancing communication and empathy skills. The students also organized a tailored group exercise class, promoting physical well-being and fostering a sense of community among the residents.

**Dreams of Becoming a Paramedic? Check This Out!**



Kickstart your paramedic career with the assistance of the Minnesota Paramedic Scholarship. Minnesota residents can receive \$5,000 to help cover tuition costs. Apply today at [www.ohe.state.mn.us](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us).

**Say Hello to our Newest Warriors!**



**Baylie Kubesh**

Volleyball  
Coach



**Meredith  
Hartley**

Bookstore  
Account Clerk

# February New Hires



creating opportunities. changing lives.

# Welcome

to the  
Ridgewater  
team!



## Join our Ridgewater Team!

### Ridgewater College Job Postings

Available as of 3/7/2024.

Please visit the [Ridgewater College Employment web page](#) to check for job postings.

- **Social Media Specialist** | Full-time | Willmar
- **Trainer/EMT/Paramedic/First Responder** | Part-time | Willmar
- **Training and Outreach Manager - Healthcare** | Full-time | Willmar
- **Veterinary Technology Instructor** | Full-time | Willmar

## SUPPORT RIDGEWATER STUDENTS:

*Empower Education Through Your Generosity!*



Your donation can help **reach more students**, **award more scholarships**, and **provide emergency resources** in times of need. **\$25** - Could help stock the Warrior Pantry, **\$50** - Could help a student purchase gas to get to class, **\$100** - Could help a student buy a course textbook, **\$250** - Could support half a scholarship award, **\$500** - Could support a full scholarship award

**Support Students Now!**



*Stay connected and up-to-date with all the latest news, events, and success stories by following our social media!*

[Unsubscribe](#)

Ridgewater College Foundation

Ridgewater College Foundation, 2101 15th Ave NW, Willmar, MN 56201