



Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis Society



## HERBERT R. PEARCE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



**1929-2011**

Annual scholarship presented by the Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society in honor of Dr. Herbert R. Pearce MD, FMF Corpsman, 5th Marines, Korea (Purple Heart), to a NJROTC Cadet who exemplifies the Marine Corps' values of honor, courage and commitment. The intent of the award/scholarship is to encourage future Marine leaders to emulate and practice the leadership qualities of "service before self" as exemplified by Corpsman and Doctor Herbert Pearce MD and practice the attributes that have established the Marine Corps as an elite military organization.

Candidates are Junior or Senior cadets in good standing in their NJROTC Unit, active participants in one or more of the NJROTC extracurricular activities (i.e., Drill / Athletic / Academic / Air Rifle / Brain Brawl Teams, Color Guard, Flag Football Referees, etc.), have a Cumulative GPA of 2.75 or above, have an "A" average in the NJROTC Class for all school years, have little to no uniform inspection violations for the academic school year, set a positive example at all times that others would strive to emulate, have NO school suspensions, be a cadet that the Senior Naval Science Instructor would recommend for a NROTC 4 year scholarship and have the endorsement of the Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society Scholarship Committee.

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## **Biography:**

Dr. Herbert R. Pearce of Jacksonville was born on April 19, 1929 in Smithville, MS to the late Dr. Rex and Jessie (Rush) Pearce. In 1934 the family moved to Wesson, MS where he was active in the Boy Scouts of America and became an Eagle Scout in 1943. He enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1947 and served honorably as a Hospital Corpsman with the 5th Marines in Korea where he took part in the invasion of Inchon and the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal; Good Conduct Medal, Korean Service Medal; the Presidential Unit Citation and Bronze Star. Dr. Pearce was a graduate of Mississippi College and the University of Mississippi School Of Medicine and practiced in Mississippi for five years before moving to Jacksonville in 1967 for his surgical training. He then practiced General Surgery in Jacksonville for thirty years. He was actively involved in the growth and development of Memorial Hospital. Dr. Pearce served on the Boards of Directors for the Brooks Health System and the Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital for twenty years. He was a member of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Pearce was active in many military organizations and associations including the Jacksonville Semper Fidelis Society, The Chosin Few, 1st Marine Division Association, Korean Veterans Association and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Dr. Pearce was married for over 60 years to Betty Rodgers Pearce and has two daughters and a son.



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