

Elmer Bieler was born in and lived his entire life in Warren, NJ. Elmer's years as a student at Watchung Hills Regional High School represented a very important and meaningful time for him. Equally as important and meaningful was the example that Elmer set for other students and staff during his years at Watchung Hills. Few people in life set out with the goal to earn the admiration of others; rather, the admiration of others is usually a result of how one lived their life; and Elmer earned this respect and admiration as a result of how he lived his life. Elmer was always ready to pitch in and help whenever and wherever he was needed. As a result for all of his help to others during his short life, as well as earning the admiration and respect of his fellow peers, Elmer was chosen to be inducted into the WHRHS Hall of Fame as a charter member.

Elmer left this life far too early at the age of 17, but he left a positive imprint on the people around him and this school as a result of having been a student here. In the WHRHS yearbook, Athletic Director Howard Tozier said this about Elmer; "I believe he had this philosophy.....Being considerate of others is not some adage one memorizes, but a series of activities carried out."

To honor Elmer, an Award in his name was created and is given yearly to a graduating senior who most closely captures Elmer's spirit. The Elmer Bieler award is the longest running single award at Watchung Hills and is traditionally presented last during senior award night. This award is a most prestigious honor to a graduating senior who represents the best of Watchung Hills.

Elmer walked the talk, setting an example for those to follow. We thank him for being the positive role model he was and the positive role model he continues to be, and welcome him into the Watchung Hills Regional High School Hall of Fame.