



2020 Jasper Harris, Jr. Aviation Scholarship



Mervyn Thomas-Crawford

**Middle Tennessee State University
Aerospace Technology**

When I was a young aviator, I participated in Space Camp, Southwest Airlines Continuing the Legacy Program, and Civil Air Patrol. I have spent over 5 years in Civil Air Patrol. Throughout those years I had the opportunity to participate in flight simulators, and flight training. I've participated in the Red-Tailed Hawks Fly program, and now have nearly 30 hours of flight time. I have participated in many ground school programs, and I am currently pursuing the Aerospace Technology program at Middle Tennessee State University, while still managing to fly.

I am a benefactor of Red-Tailed Hawks youth programs which had the biggest impact on my aviation career. Red-Tailed Hawks has boosted me to where I am currently in aviation. I will continue to exemplify the Red-Tailed Hawks mission statement by getting more of today's youth involved in aviation. I want today's youth to have the same opportunities I had when I was a teenager. It will set them apart from other people their age, and put them ahead of a lot of people, when it comes to aviation. I couldn't help but realize how different and set apart I was from everyone else my age. No one I knew had been to several aviation museums, or been in flight simulators, or had the opportunity to tour NASA. At the age of 13, none of my friends could say they had flown a plane. Being able to be set apart with the opportunities I had, at a young age was a great start to an even better future. I want the same thing for today's generation of youth.

As Jasper Harris was an advocate and influencer in the aviation field, I will strive to be a leader in the Aviation industry in honor of Jasper Harris. I will continue my involvement in aviation programs. I will also strive to honor Jasper Harris Jr.'s legacy by giving back to programs that helped me, and giving back to Baltimore city. I will get today's youth involved in aviation

