Who Was Mike Zigler?

Mike Zigler was a student at UNLV from 1999 to 2002. Born and raised in Indiana, Mike moved to Las Vegas to pursue his dream of becoming a journalist. His career started at the UNLV Rebel Yell where he was a staff writer, news editor and editor-in-chief. After graduation, Mike’s career highlights included news editor for Las Vegas City Life, assistant director of communication at the MGM Grand and editor of Liberty Watch. Mike’s career was cut short by his death on Oct. 16, 2009 at the age of 29.

Mike was a Gonzo journalist at heart whose writings were inspired by themes of freedom, adventure and community.

Why is this scholarship important?

To UNLV?
Mike was an important figure at UNLV during his time as a student. Upon graduating, he remained involved with the UNLV Alumni Association.

To Students?
As a passionate journalist, Mike serves as an example of how hard work and commitment can lead to a successful career in journalism.

To Mike?
Mike loved UNLV and was a passionate Rebel fan. He had a big heart and was known as a generous and caring person. Those close to him feel that awarding this scholarship is an appropriate way to keep his legacy alive.

To Apply
Complete a Hank Greenspun School of Journalism and Media Studies application and essay and write an additional 500-word essay on what excellence in journalism means to the applicant.