



Agnes and Edward Halvorson Scholarship Endowment

Teaching and learning have been lifelong family and career pursuits for Ed and Agnes Halvorson. Both grew up in small, rural North Dakota communities where education was valued but opportunities for education beyond high school were limited.

Agnes (Dosch) grew up in tiny, Karlsruhe, North Dakota, the youngest of eight children. She graduated from high school in 1956, cared for her mother for the year that followed, and then entered the workforce.

Ed's hometown, Crosby, North Dakota, was also small and linked to agriculture. Ed's dad worked at the local elevator. Ed, the youngest of four children, was a good student and athlete. He was awarded a football scholarship in 1954 to the Bottineau School of Forestry located a few miles down the road, but after his first quarter at the college, Ed enlisted in the US Army which offered opportunities to serve his country, explore the world, and earn the educational benefits of the GI Bill. He was honorably discharged in 1958 and

worked in construction until fall semester classes began at Minot State University.

His stint in the military helped Ed focus more closely on his life goals. In August of 1960, he and Agnes were married, and in 1961, he graduated from MSU with a baccalaureate degree in mathematics and a minor in science.

Ed's first teaching jobs were in Kramer and Souris, North Dakota. In 1965, he accepted a National Science Foundation grant to work on his master degree at UND.

In 1966, he began teaching in Devils Lake, and during the summer of 1967, he completed his MS in Chemistry and Biology. Ed continued in the Devils Lake Public School system for the remainder of his teaching career. His first assignment was ninth-grade science. During his twenty-four years at DLPS, Ed taught chemistry, physics, trigonometry, senior math, algebra II, and science.

Throughout his career, Ed continued to advance his own learning and to

assist with science leadership. He completed additional graduate-level coursework at UND and NDSU. He served as head of the science department and attended many science fairs as coach and chaperone. He accompanied one of his gifted students, Edward Kaeding, to compete at the National Science Fair in Fort Worth, Texas. Ed served as president for the Math Teachers Association and assisted with curriculum writing for the state of North Dakota for ninth-grade science, algebra II, and trigonometry. He was instrumental in bringing the first computers to the Devils Lake School system. He also served as a member of the North Central School Evaluators, visiting schools during the accreditation process.

Throughout their marriage, Agnes focused her energies on the home front. Ed and Agnes were parents to five children—Linda, Lance, Louise, Lisa, and Lloyd. Agnes looked after the children and supported their many activities.

For many years, she provided child care services in her home. She made a difference in so many young lives in her day-care and neighborhood. There was always room for one more. In later years, Agnes managed gaming operations for the Elks Social Club and the Lake Region Heritage Center. She played bridge and achieved the status of Life Master.

Ed and Agnes talked about setting up a scholarship endowment. They were pleased that four of their children and five of their grandchildren had attended Lake Region State College and have appreciated the educational access a home-town college provides. Unfortunately, Agnes died in the winter of 2016, before they were able to set up the endowment. Ed and his family, which now includes twenty-one grandchildren and thirty great-grandchildren, are pleased that this scholarship will provide support for students for years to come. ■



The Halvorson Family gathered during June 2015 to celebrate Agnes and Edward's fifty-fifth wedding anniversary.