

Rodger and Connie Haugen Endowment

Rodger and Connie Haugen moved to Devils Lake in 1984 and fell in love with the community. *"The Lake Region has been a wonderful place to raise our family and grow our business. We think that having a college in town really makes the community a better place for all. So, we decided to invest in an endowment with the Community College Foundation,"* says Rodger. *"It allows us to help at least one student each year, and in doing so, it helps to keep the college strong,"* he adds. *"In the long run, that benefits the whole community. The way we see it, this one investment does a lot of good work!"*

Both Rodger and Connie had North Dakota roots. Rodger grew up in Ryder, and Connie in Bisbee, and they met at Minot State University. Connie taught elementary grades in Harvey for two years, and then they were married and moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Rodger completed his education. After working and living in Williston and Minot, Rodger and Connie purchased the Gilbertson-Gloger Funeral Home in Devils Lake in 1984. The business grew, re-located to a new facility, and expanded with the purchase of the Burke Funeral Home.

Rodger and Connie were always active in church and community, doing their part to keep them strong. Through the years, Rodger has

worn many hats, serving on the Military Affairs Committee and Forward Devils Lake and with memberships in Rotary and the Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce which honored him as an *Outstanding Citizen*. Rodger also served on the Community College

Foundation board of directors, recently completing a two-year term as president.

Connie was also busy with many civic organizations. She loved to sew and shared her talents through "Brim of Hope" sewing turbans for cancer patients. She and her sisters formed the Berg Family Quilters and contributed many quilts to various charities. Sadly, Connie died unexpectedly in 2007 while she and Rodger were on vacation in Mexico.

Rodger and Connie had three children—Jeff, Allison (Kyle) Ternes, and Daniel. Allison and Jeff both attended Lake Region State College, providing the family first-hand experience with the benefits of a hometown college.

The endowment Rodger and Connie established will be used to assist students who will put the support to good use. They asked the scholarship selection committee to find students who will work hard to reach their goals. ●

