

Florence Lake Charitable Trust

It seems ironic to be writing a tribute to Florence Lake, since, if she could, she would likely object to any special “fuss” being made over her. Her friends explain that Florence was a very private person who never sought recognition and likely would have preferred a quiet passing.

Florence Lake died Sunday evening, December 29, 1991. She left many friends in Devils Lake who knew her to be a very compassionate and community-oriented person. Though she had numerous community interests, Lake Region State College held a special place in Florence’s heart.

Florence demonstrated her commitment to the college in many ways. She was a long-term member of the Community College Foundation, serving several terms on its board of directors and scholarship committee. She also served on the board of trustees which, for a period, provided oversight for day-to-day campus operations. In these roles, Florence lived up to her reputation as an astute business woman who asked hard questions when necessary, who kept track of details, and who liked things to be done right—the first time. She expected, in fact demanded good stewardship of all resources

available to the college.

Despite her talent and expertise in the business and finance arena, students were the beneficiaries of Florence’s deepest care and concern.

Florence believed strongly that scholarship funds must be available to Lake Region area students in need.

Often, when she heard of a special need, Florence would quietly write out a check destined to open doors for a few more students to enroll.

Florence made plans through her will to assure perpetual support for Lake Region State College. She directed that a large portion of her estate be used to establish a trust fund. Earnings provide support each year for scholarship awards for exemplary students, a wonderful gift that keeps on working for students and the college.

Florence will be remembered as a reserved and thoughtful person who could be counted on to be straightforward about things that needed attention. She was intuitively sensitive to the needs of others, a good listener who seldom talked about herself. Her warm and caring spirit made her a beloved member of the Lake Region State College family.

We will miss her. ♦

