

David and Jamie Nienhuis Family Endowment

David and Jamie Nienhuis farm near Lawton, North Dakota. David began farming alongside his father at very young age and officially took over operation of the farm in 1982 upon the retirement of his parents, Edward and Violet Nienhuis. In 1987, David married Jamie Blessing of Stanberry, Missouri, bringing her into the farming operation.

David was born in the Edmore Community Hospital and raised on the family farm near Lawton. He attended first grade at Lawton Public School and grades 2-10 at Edmore Public School. He attended Spring Vale Academy near Owosso, Michigan his junior and senior years, graduating in 1975. Upon graduation, David was unsure of his future aspirations. His parents, believing strongly in the importance and value of higher education, encouraged him to enroll at Lake Region Junior College in the automotive program. While attending LRJC, David discovered he had a gift for repairing things and excelled in the classes of the automotive and diesel programs.



David finished the Automotive Technology program in 1977 and continued with and finished the Diesel Technology program, graduating in 1978. After graduation, David maintained contact with the instructors he so appreciated while a student. David has a strong interest in continuing his own education, especially in the areas of agriculture marketing, modern farming practices with the use of technology and agronomic improvement.

Jamie was born and raised in King City, Missouri. She attended school in King City through 10th grade and then attended Spring Vale Academy, graduating in 1979. Jamie graduated from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Kansas City, Missouri in 1982. She began her nursing career in a rural Missouri hospital. After marrying David in 1987 and moving to North Dakota she continued her career as a nurse at Cavalier County Memorial Hospital/Langdon Prairie Health in various roles including Chief Nursing Officer until 2022. During that time, she completed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Science in Nursing. In 2023 Jamie started her present position as a part-time nursing instructor at LRSC.

Because higher education is important to their family, David and Jamie's four children have all attended LRSC. Anna graduated in 2011 with an Associate of Science degree from LRSC and continued her nursing education at Med Center One/Sanford College of Nursing receiving a BSN. James received his Associate Applied Science in automotive technology from LRSC in 2013 and continued his education

at NDSCS graduating with an AAS in Diesel Technology. John received an Associates of Arts and an Associates of Applied Science in Precision Ag from LRSC in 2015. He continued his education at NDSU receiving a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. Mary graduated from LRSC in 2019 with an Associate of Science and an Associate of Applied Science in Fitness. She graduated from UND with bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and Sociology and is a member of the North Dakota Army National Guard.

During the years the Nienhuis children have attended LRSC, they have received scholarships that have been provided by endowments established by others through the Community College Foundation. Realizing the blessings of, and in appreciation for the education the family has received from LRSC, David and Jamie are pleased to be able to establish a second endowment to help advance the education of future students attending Lake Region State College, intended specifically to encourage students from the Edmore/Lawton region to continue their education.

