The Harper Family

SCHOLARSHIP

The family of Charles Howard Harper and Lois Foster Harper has been closely identified with Northwest Nazarene University from its earliest days.

As a Methodist preacher, Charles moved from Colorado to southern Idaho in 1910 to pastor a circuit of churches in Murtaugh and Heyburn. To supplement his salary, he brought along 150 hives of bees. Later he moved his family and apiary business to Twin Falls.

Charles and Lois had seven children: Willard, Albert, Donald, Dorothy, Rachel, Ralph, and Paul.

Christian education and Christian Holiness were life-long concerns of Charles and Lois. In 1915 they learned about the Church of the Nazarene and the new school it had opened in Nampa. Between 1916 and 1937 all seven of the Harper children attended schools on the NNC campus. The three older boys graduated from the college and the two girls completed a two-year teachers training course. The two younger boys completed grammar and high school and one year of college before moving to California to complete their college courses. Ultimately all but the youngest child completed college degrees and took advanced degrees from various universities. While at NNC all were active in student affairs, especially music and public speaking. They preached, gave readings, delivered extemporaneous speeches, and won honors on the high school and college debate teams during those years. The family has a distinguished record of professional achievement in a variety of careers in law, teaching, preaching, military service, and civic and church leadership. Their tribute reads as follows: "As a family we are grateful for what God did for us through Northwest Nazarene College. We are especially grateful for our parents. They were never well off financially. A Christian education was a higher priority than comfort and, in some cases, it had a higher priority even than food. We grew up believing that a college education was the only course for our lives. THANK YOU, MOM AND DAD!"

Criteria for the Award

1. Awards are to be made to students of scholarly promise who are planning a career that involves public speaking.
2. Preference shall be given to students preparing for careers in which forensic skills (debate, rhetoric, analysis) will be utilized, and/or students who are speech majors.
3. Nominations shall be made by the Department of Speech Communication for approval by the Scholarship Committee.
4. The general scholarship requirements, including full-time student status and a 2.5 GPA, apply.
5. Participants selected with an emphasis in forensics or drama will be expected to participate in at least one full season's activities offered at NNU for each year they receive a scholarship.

A most satisfying way to honor a loved one or friend is to invest in a life yet to be lived.

Gifts to NNU's Endowed Scholarship Program become a "helping hand" to students as they prepare for their vocations and for lives of service to others.

For more information, contact the Office of University Advancement, NNU, 623 Holly St., Nampa, ID 83686. Phone (208) 467-8772.

Northwest Nazarene University admits students of any race, color, and national or ethnic origin.