Effie Shaver Pentz moved to the Nampa area in 1923 and graduated from Nampa High School in 1927. She attended Northwest Nazarene College, receiving her normal teaching certificate in 1929. After teaching in rural Montana and on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, she returned to NNC and completed her degree in 1933. She taught elementary school at Bowmont, Melba, Kuna and Emmett before marrying Donald Pentz and moving to eastern Montana to live on a farm and ranch in a remote area. There, after having two children, she resumed teaching and continued until her retirement in 1970. In spite of her busy life teaching, raising a family and helping manage the family farm, she found time to continue her education taking graduate courses at a variety of universities.

Mrs. Pentz was always drawn to disadvantaged and handicapped children. She was one of the first special education teachers in the state of Montana and worked for many years with the Montana Association for Retarded Children and Adults. She was active in many civic activities and was a member and officer of the teacher's honorary, Delta Kappa Gamma.

After the death of her husband and her retirement, she returned to live in the Nampa area. At that time she had lost most of her vision, but continued to be active as a founder and officer of the Treasure Valley Association for the Blind. She volunteered hundreds of hours to Head Start and other programs. She loved to travel and visited countries all over the world.

Mrs. Pentz was awarded the NNC Alumni Association Citation of Merit in 1983.

**Criteria for the Award**

1. Recipients are to be students majoring in Elementary Education. Preference is to be given to a student focusing on the "special needs child" or a student planning to teach in a rural or low income setting.

2. Awards are to be given to students who have completed at least one full school year, with a grade point average of at least 3.0.

3. Recipients shall be selected on a combination of financial need and academic excellence.

4. Nominations for this award are to be made through the Office of Financial Aid.

*A most satisfying way to honor a loved one or friend is to invest in a life yet to be lived. Gifts to NNC'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 Development Office, NNC, 623 Holly St., Nampa, ID 83686. Phone (208) 467-8842.*