Born in 1913 in a small town in Minnesota, Ruth Palmen Putnam soon moved with her family to the Spokane Valley area in the state of Washington. After graduating from Spokane West Valley High School in 1934, Ruth felt God's call to continue her education at Simpson Bible Institute, which at that time was in Seattle, Washington. She was the first female graduate of the SBI three-year teaching, preaching, and evangelism course in 1937.

Ruth used her training traveling through rural areas in the Pacific Northwest establishing vacation Bible schools, teaching the Word, and preaching. After her marriage to Earl Palmen, she continued to minister through the church as a Bible teacher, Sunday School Superintendent, and missions worker. She and Earl had four children—Darlene, Ralph, Jerilyn, and Ardis—all of whom are NNC alumni.

After her husband’s death, Ruth moved to Nampa and became a member of Franklin Road Church of the Nazarene. There she met and married Earl Putnam who worked in the maintenance department at the college. The two of them were active laypersons at Franklin Road Church. Ruth especially enjoyed teaching the young married couple's Sunday school class, which included a number of ministerial students and their wives.

In later years, Ruth has been a member of the Marysville, Washington Church of the Nazarene where she continued teaching women's Bible studies and Sunday school classes into her late 80's.

A fitting tribute to Ruth Palmen Putnam's life of faith and service, this scholarship has been established at Northwest Nazarene University on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday.

**Criteria for the Award**

1. Recipients are to be students who meet general scholastic requirements and show potential for academic success and degree completion.

2. Financial need shall be a primary consideration in the awarding of this scholarship, with preference given to students from low-income families or with a significant lack of support.

3. Recipients may receive the award in successive years, not to exceed four years.

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 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.