In 1926 G.W. and Rosa Qualls moved with their family from Montana to Nampa, Idaho so that their children, Leo and Hazel, could receive a Christian education at Northwest Nazarene College. Active in the Church of the Nazarene, Mr. Qualls later served on the NNC Board of Regents and also as a Sunday School Superintendent and a member of his local church board.

Leo first enrolled in the grammar school, then located on the NNC campus. During this time a teacher, Pearl Miller, had such a profound influence on his life that he later established a scholarship in her honor.

After the failure of his first business venture, The Dime Lunch in Nampa, Leo moved to Montana where he met and married Corrine. They had two daughters, Lynda and Gwen, both of whom attended NNC.

The Qualls family has a long history of generous support for NNC. A co-founder of the NNC Alumni Golf Tournament in Salem, Oregon, Leo also initiated the Leo T. Qualls Invitational Golf Tournament which is held each year at Sun River, Oregon. The proceeds from these tournaments are used to provide scholarships for NNC students.

Leo served on numerous official assignments on the Oregon Pacific District, including membership on the District Advisory Board. His death on April 4, 1988 ended 23 years of service on NNC's Board of Regents.

Leo received an honorary doctorate from Northwest Nazarene College in 1985.

Criteria for awarding of scholarship

1. The purpose of this scholarship is for the recruitment and retention of students who show potential for academic success.

2. It may be awarded for subsequent years, up to a maximum of four, to students who otherwise might be financially unable to continue their college program.

3. Nominations are to be made by the Financial Aid Office for approval by the Scholarship Committee.

4. Students must be full-time with preference given to students with a GPA of 3.0 or higher but not lower than 2.5.

5. Students in all majors will be considered.