Dwight Seward and Arlene Wild were born in western Kansas. It was there that Dwight began his farming career. After attending Kansas State College, Arlene became a school teacher. They were married in Palco, Kansas in 1934. In 1937, during the "Great Depression," they moved from the "Dust Bowl" to the Nyssa, Oregon area where Dwight continued farming and Arlene taught school part-time or gave piano lessons.

They had four children: three daughters, Nadine (Mrs. Hugh Pierce), Nelda (Mrs. Bob Jackson), Shirlee (Mrs. Burton Smith), and one son, Gary, who married Ronda Downs. All four children and three spouses attended Northwest Nazarene College; Nadine, Nelda, Shirlee, Hugh and Bob are all graduates of NNC. Three grandchildren have been students.

They were long-time active members of the Nyssa Church of the Nazarene. Dwight's friendliness and love for people was expressed as he served for many years as the "official church greeter," and as a member of the Church Board. In addition, he served on the board or was chairman of several community services. He died on December 20, 1988.

Arlene served in many leadership positions including NYPS President, Church Treasurer, President of the Missionary Society, Director of Children's Ministries, and member of the Church Board. In addition, she has been the Church Pianist for years.

Criteria for awarding of scholarship

1. The purpose of this scholarship is for the recruitment and retention of students who have financial need and demonstrate potential for academic success.

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

3. Students must be full-time, have a minimum 2.5 GPA, and meet other general scholarship requirements.