Thomas R. "Rusty" Taylor was born and raised in Kansas. He graduated from Friends Haviland Academy in 1960. Rusty attended Northwest Nazarene College graduating with a B.A. in Biological Science in 1964. He received a Master of Arts in Teaching in 1974. Rusty met Linda Hampton at NNC; they were married June 22, 1963 in a double wedding ceremony with Ken Loen and Sharon Hampton.

Rusty’s tennis career lasted 24 years. He played varsity tennis for NNC all four years, was the Nampa High School Head Tennis Coach for 12 years and the NNC Lady Crusader Head Tennis Coach for eight years (1989-1996).

Rusty began his teaching career in science in 1966 in San Jose, California. Currently he is a secondary science teacher in Nampa. In 1982 he received the Idaho Outstanding Biology Teacher Award.

Rusty and his wife, Linda, are long-time members of College Church of the Nazarene. They have three children: Christy Taylor Daniels, Cindy Taylor Wheadon, and Nicole Taylor, all graduates of NNC.

Criteria for the Award

1. Recipients are to be individuals of Christian commitment and worthy character.

2. Preference shall be given to student(s) majoring in Science or Education, and who meet general NNC scholastic requirements, in addition to NAIA athletic requirements.

3. Financial need shall be considered.

4. Nominations for this award are to be made by the Athletic Department and/or 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.