John Van Manen was born in Arnhem, Holland and at a young age moved with his parents to the United States. He attended school in California and Idaho and in 1971 graduated from Northwest Nazarene College (University).

Debi Van Manen was born and raised in Idaho. John and Debi met while he was attending NNC and married in 1971. John began his career at Alsip Funeral Chapel in 1968, becoming a co-owner of the chapel in 1977. Alsip Chapel merged in 1996 with Carriage Services from Houston, Texas. John is past president of the Idaho Funeral Service Association, past president and active member of the Nampa Lion's Club, member of the Nampa Chamber of Commerce, and very involved in community activities. Debi has been an administrative assistant at Morrison Knudsen in Boise and at Mercy Medical Center in Nampa, a legal secretary, and secretary to the president at Northwest Nazarene University. Debi has also served her church as children's ministries director. John and Debi are members of Karcher Church of the Nazarene in Nampa.

John and Debi have two children, Angela and Brian (B.J.). Angela graduated from Northwest Nazarene University in 1998 as a business administration major and B.J., a physics/engineering major, graduated from NNU in 2001.

The Lord has blessed the Van Manens in their business, and the establishment of this scholarship reflects their prayer that students will stay sensitive to God’s call, and will become salt and light wherever they live, work, and serve.

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. Awards are to be given to students majoring in pre-engineering or engineering physics;
3. Financial need shall be a consideration in the awarding of this scholarship;
4. Recipients may receive the award in successive years, not to exceed 4 years;
5. 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 Planned Giving, NNU, 623 Holly St, Nampa, ID 83686. Phone (208) 467-8772.