Marion T. Weatherford was born in Arlington, Oregon on October 9, 1906. There he attended grade school, went to Arlington High School for two years and then graduated from Pasadena High School in California. He received both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Oregon State College. He began his career as an educator, teaching in public schools and at two colleges, before returning to his Arlington ranch in 1942 where he was a major wheat and cattle farmer.

Marion was president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League in 1946; a board member of the Oregon Wheat Commission from 1947 to 1957, serving as chairman from 1953 to 1957. He was President of the Pacific Northwest Grain and Grain Products Association from 1950-1975, Oregon 4-H Club Foundation trustee from 1956-1964 and 1966-1972, and was an O.S.U. Ag Research Foundation trustee. He served as a board member of Northwest Bell Telephone Company and a number of Oregon banks.

Several distinguished service and honor awards were bestowed upon Mr. Weatherford. They included the Sigma Nu Fraternity Distinguished Service Award in 1975, the Gilliam County Distinguished Service Award in 1976, the Oregon State University Distinguished Service Award in 1979, and the Oregon Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1980. He wrote several books and historical sketches. Mr. Weatherford died on February 27, 1990.

Leona Miriam Sneed was born in Santa Monica, California on March 20, 1906. She attended Santa Monica grade schools, Pasadena Academy High School and Pasadena College. She also attended Willis Business College and Oregon State College. Marion and Leona were united in marriage on September 8, 1929 in Los Angeles. They had no children.

Mrs. Weatherford has been involved in many civic betterment activities which included serving as President of the Arlington Women's Club and President of the Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs. In 1959 she received the prestigious Distinguished Service Award from the American Forestry Association. She, along with her husband, received the Gilliam County Distinguished Service Award in 1978.

Criteria for awarding of scholarship

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

2. Preference shall be given to students with a background in agriculture or who are planning an agri-business related career.

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

4. Students must be full-time, have a minimum 2.0 GPA, and meet other general scholarship requirements.