Born in Oklahoma and raised in Northern California, Bruce Webb graduated from Pasadena College (now Point Loma Nazarene University) in 1955. It was there that he met his wife, Gina. While at PC, Bruce set numerous track records, including a 4.19-mile that lasted 23 years. His 3rd place finish in the 1954 NAIA National Track Championship 2-mile run made him Pasadena's (PLNU) first All-American track man. Bruce has since been inducted into the Pasadena/Point Loma Athletic Hall of Fame. While working on his M.A. in Christian Education at Pasadena and at Fuller Theological Seminary, Bruce served as PC track and cross country coach.

Over the next eleven years Bruce served four churches as Minister of Christian Education: Los Angeles First (where the Sunday School set attendance records that have never been broken), Seattle First, Upland First, and Nampa College Church of the Nazarene. Almost every church experienced significant growth while Bruce was there. During these years (1957—1968) he also served as Vice President of the Nazarene Directors of Christian Education Fellowship. Bruce authored one book, and co-authored another, on church organization.

In 1968 Bruce came to Northwest Nazarene College as Director of Admissions. During his years at NNC, Bruce sent over 100,000 hand-written birthday or holiday cards and personal notes (most written between 9:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.) plus tens of thousands of letters and phone calls to prospective and current students, colleagues and pastors. For 15 years Bruce corresponded with every Nazarene missionary's child during his or her teen years. This personalized touch created a growth pattern that peaked in a record enrollment of 1352 in 1981-82. It is not surprising that Bruce, with his handsome white head of hair, expansive smile, warm handshake and twinkle in his eyes, came to personify "Mr. NNC" for countless prospects, students, parents, and constituents across nearly two-and-a-half decades. "What a serendipity it was," Bruce wrote, "while at Promise Keeper's Pastors Conference in Atlanta in '96, to have nearly 75 young ministers from all over the country stop by and thank me for my part in helping them get to and through NNC."

Bruce enjoyed five very productive years of associate ministry at the Sparks, Nevada Church of the Nazarene before his retirement in 1996. Since then he and Gina have divided their time between Modesto, CA with son Scott (84) and family; Weber, ID with son Mark (82) and family; Arizona; and Steens Mountain in eastern Oregon. Bruce still maintains a lively correspondence with scores of friends, and remains keenly interested in and committed to the work of Northwest Nazarene University.

Criteria for the Award

Recipients are to be students with Christian commitment who show promise of future service and are majoring in Religion or Social Service Ministries with an emphasis in Christian Education or Christian Service; Recipients must meet general scholastic requirements and show potential for academic success and degree completion; Financial need shall be a consideration in the awarding of this scholarship; Recipients may receive the award in successive years, not to exceed four years; Nominations for this award are to be made through the Department of Religion and 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, 525 Holly St., Nampa, ID 83686. Phone (208) 467-8772.