Elon Booker was born in a farming community in Nebraska. When he was twelve years of age, he moved with his family to Walla Walla, Washington where he attended Jr. High and High School. He started his business career as a teen-ager, running a large paper route and mowing lawns. Following graduation from high school, he enrolled at Northwest Nazarene College where he majored in business. While a full-time student during his senior year, he held three jobs simultaneously -- he did tax work at a local CPA firm, worked at Naiziger's Mens Store and managed an apartment house.

He then attended Willamette University where he studied law and gained recognition for his ability to debate legal issues. After one and one-half years he decided not to become an attorney and accepted a position as Special Agent with the U.S. Treasury Department. He served in this assignment for five and one-half years, the last two and one-half in Salt Lake City. He then went into investment and stock brokerage work, moving up into a management position which he held from 1975 to 1980. From 1980, until his retirement in 1983, he served as a counselor and broker to clients, specializing in pensions and profit sharing plans, and handled major accounts in the millions of dollars. Since his retirement he has been involved in the management of his personal investments in securities and real estate. He is an active member of the First Church of the Nazarene and also spends much time in community volunteer work.

Elon initiated this scholarship fund as an expression of admiration and appreciation to Marvin Byers, who proved to be both a valued professor and a personal friend.

Marvin Byers was born near Enid, Oklahoma on May 22, 1913. As a child he moved with his parents to Oketo, Marshall County, Kansas. He earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in business at Emporia (Kansas) State University. He served for eight years on the Accounting faculty of the College of Commerce and Industry, University of Wyoming. In 1956 he joined the faculty of Northwest Nazarene College as Chairman of the Division of Applied Science and Head of the Department of Business. At NNC he also served on the Academic Council, the Faculty Policies Committee and as Faculty Budget Coordinator. He retired in 1978 but continued working on a part-time basis as manager of the NNC Copy Center which he previously developed.

Criteria for awarding of scholarship

1. Awards are to be made to students who are majoring in business, have financial need and demonstrate promise for success.

2. Applicants must have reached sophomore status or above, with preference given to those who may be physically handicapped or have acquired cognitive impairment.

3. Nominations may be made by the Department of Business, or other interested parties, for approval by the Scholarship Committee.

4. Full-time student status, a 2.5 GPA and other general scholarship requirements apply.

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