Raymond M. Cooke was born in Calgary, Alberta. After completing high school at Central Collegiate Institute, he came to Northwest Nazarene University and completed a degree in history – with time out for a brief career as an insurance salesman and adjuster. After completing a master’s degree at the University of Idaho, Ray began a doctoral program and subsequently received his Ph.D. from the University of Oregon.

Connie (Mitchell) Cooke was born in Oregon and also graduated from Northwest Nazarene University. After their marriage in Newport, Oregon, Connie supported her husband’s career choices and encouraged the continuation of his education, working part-time and raising a growing family. When their four children were well along in school, she completed requirements for a teaching credential, and taught briefly in California before spending 17 years as an elementary teacher in Nampa.

Dr. Cooke taught in Nazarene higher education for 35 years, the last 26 at Northwest Nazarene University where he served for 15 years as Chair of the Division of Social Science.

Criteria for the Award

1. Recipients of this award shall be students majoring in history who show promise in this field;

2. Recipients are to be persons of Christian commitment and worthy character;

3. Recipients must be in good scholastic standing and show satisfactory progress toward a degree;

4. Nominations shall be made by the Department of History for approval by the Scholarship Committee.

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