Gilbert Clayton Ford was born on March 31, 1923, in Graham County, Kansas. He and his wife Norma were married on July 28, 1946 in Washington, D.C. They have three daughters and sons-in-law: Gail and James Roberts of Greenleaf, Idaho, Valerie and Michael Urwin and Constance and Stephen Pruss of Nampa, and six grandchildren.

Dr. Ford attended the University of Colorado at Boulder from September 1940 until March 1944, and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in June 1943 with a major in chemistry. After serving in the United States Army from October 1944 until July 27, 1946, he attended Harvard University and received a Master of Arts Degree in Physics in 1948 and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Nuclear Physics in 1951.

Dr. Ford began teaching at NNC in 1950 and continued there as a faculty member until his retirement in 1993. He served in various roles including Head of the Physics Department, Chairman of the Division of Mathematics and Natural Science and, from 1970 to 1985, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Academic Dean. After his retirement in 1993 he continued to teach on a part-time basis.

During one sabbatical leave Dr. Ford studied at the Universitat Heidelberg in Germany. On a second sabbatical leave he was associated with la Universidad San Andres in La Paz, Bolivia.

From 1970 to 1976 Dr. Ford served as a member of the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. He also served as chairman or member of a number of accreditation teams, visiting colleges and universities in the Northwest.

Criteria for awarding of scholarship

1. One or more scholarships are to be awarded yearly, on the basis of outstanding interest and achievement, to entering or continuing students majoring in mathematics or natural science.

2. The faculty of the Division of Mathematics and Natural Science will provide nominations for recipients.

3. Students may apply by using the Departmental Scholarship Application.

4. General requirements for full-time student status and a minimum 2.0 GPA apply.

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