Merlyn Knight was born in Nampa, Idaho on February 22, 1948. He spent his childhood years in California, Nevada and Boise, Idaho. He attended Northwest Nazarene College, graduating in 1970 with a BA in Physics. Following graduate studies at Seattle Pacific University, he started working as a Royal Fork Restaurant manager. Within a year he was promoted to supervisor. He is currently serving as president of the restaurant chain which has locations in eight states and Canada.

Janet Cook was born in Seattle, Washington on January 24, 1949. As a child, she lived in San Jose, Portland, and Seattle. While a student at Northwest Nazarene College, she and Merlyn met and were married on June 12, 1969. They have three children: Scott, Jennifer, and Jeffrey.

Merlyn and Janet are long-time members of the Boise First Church of the Nazarene where they have served in a number of leadership positions. Merlyn is a member of the Northwest Nazarene College Foundation Board.

Criteria for the Award

1. This scholarship is to be awarded to an upper division student, with preference given to a physics major.

2. Nominations are to be made by the Science Division for approval by the Scholarship Committee.

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