Ralph Shoemaker was born in Carmargo, Oklahoma on December 6, 1921. He grew up in Los Angeles and spent five years in Wyoming before moving to Idaho in 1944. He attended Northwest Nazarene College.

Lois Ann Johnson was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota on December 8, 1924. She spent her childhood in North Dakota, attended Northwest Nazarene College and taught school for five years.

Ralph and Lois Ann were married in 1949 and had four children, Mark, Jamison, Quinet and Craig; Quinet is a graduate of NNC. They operated Shoemaker Trucking in Boise for thirty years. Both have been long-time active members of the Church of the Nazarene, serving on numerous local and district boards and councils. They have also served on work-witness teams to several foreign countries.

Criteria for awarding of scholarships

1. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student for the term during which he or she is engaged in student teaching.

2. The Interdivisional Council on Teacher Education and the Director of Financial Aid will determine need.

3. The Council will recommend a candidate or candidates to the Scholarship Committee.

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

5. General requirements for full-time student status and a 2.25 minimum GPA apply.