

George M. and Liale W. Schwenk Memorial Scholarship Fund

George Schwenk, a long-time resident of the Rochester Community, exhibited a strong love for family, community, and the outdoors. He spent his life farming the land, and he also loved fishing and enjoying nature.

George served as Richland Township Trustee and was on the Rochester Community School Board for twenty-four years. He was also a part of St. Joseph Catholic Church and was a member of the Knights of Columbus of Rochester.

Family was very important to George. He dearly loved his wife, Liale, and together they had four children.

Shortly after George passed away in 1999, Liale decided to honor her husband by creating a scholarship fund in his name. The George M. Schwenk Memorial Scholarship was created that same year.

Liale Wolford Schwenk, 84, passed away on Sunday, December 14, 2014. She was a loving wife and mother of George, Debra, Tom, and Lori, and wanted the best for her family.

Liale worked hard on the family farm. Whether she was gathering eggs, taking George and Tom to the fields, or running to town to get parts, she was always there to help. She rarely sat down and was always busy with something. She instilled this work ethic in her children.

Lori says that her Mom once told her that “Dad rode one of his white horses to her house to ask her out...a prince on a white horse...what a fairy tale!”

This scholarship is designed to go to a graduating senior of Rochester Community High School who is pursuing a career in agriculture or an agriculture-related field. The recipient must also show good citizenship and have a good scholastic record. With the help of the Community Foundation, Liale can be sure the memory of her husband will be long-lived, and George will continue to give long after his passing.

