NORTHERN INDIANA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
STARKE FULTON MIAMI
WHERE GIVING GROWS

Our Donor's Stories

Hamblin Scholarship in Honor of Eleanor G. Hamblin

A mother and a teacher honored . . .

When Eleanor Hamblin died in 2006 at age 84, her daughter Jane kept thinking that she must find a way to honor her mom's memory—maybe a scholarship since her mom had loved learning so much. As is often the case after someone dear dies, Jane was paralyzed about what to do. Two years went by, and then the Starke County Community Foundation helped her get moving—but fast! Late in 2008, Jane was invited to a Community Foundation luncheon and learned how easy it would be to honor her mom. She wouldn't have to contact university officials at her mother's alma mater to start a scholarship. She wouldn't have to hire a lawyer. She wouldn't have to sock away thousands and thousands of dollars and jump through hoops.

All she would need to do is start a fund in the Community Foundation and the rest would fall into place. In just a few weeks, Jane signed the fund agreement, wrote a check for $5,000, the minimum to establish a fund, and in four months' time, the first Hamblin Scholarship in honor of Eleanor G. Hamblin was presented!

"My mom was the original multi-tasker," says Jane. "It was amazing how much she got done in a day as full-time teacher and full-time wife, mother, and daughter to aging parents. So, she would really have appreciated the efficiency of the Community Foundation in helping me set up the Hamblin Fund," says Jane. "What's more, she would have been grateful that the staff of the Community Foundation listened to me and valued my wish to honor her. They were kind listeners!"

Eleanor Hamblin participated in the life of Starke County for more than 50 years. Dedicated to the profession of teaching, she taught English, business studies, shorthand, typing, accounting, and secretarial practice to three generations of students in the Knox Schools. She was the sponsor to many Knox High classes and advisor to nearly every student club at one time or another over her 36-year teaching career. She even wrote the words to the Knox High School alma mater. Upon her retirement from the Knox Community School Corporation in 1982, she received a governor's commendation and was also made a Sagamore of the Wabash.

"I could go on and on about my mom. But I don't need to, because through the Hamblin Fund, I have a tangible way of showing how important she was to me and my family and to the Knox Schools," Jane reasons. "I am very satisfied that my mother's memory will live on forever. The Community Foundation will make sure of that. Now, I can worry about something else!"

Copyright © 2018 Northern Indiana Community Foundation