

The Harold E. and Neva Funk Mikesell Scholarship

The Harold E. and Neva Funk Mikesell Scholarship celebrates the Mikesells' unwavering dedication to education. Neva was a very devoted and passionate educator and taught for 41 years. The Mikesells created this renewable scholarship to share their love and help fund strong students for 8 semesters of higher education.

Neva was a loving, active women in all aspects of life. She was born in Fulton County and ended up staying and spending much of her adult life in the area. She was a graduate of Grass Creek High School, and then went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Indiana Central College in Indianapolis. Her love of learning did not stop there, as she then went on to receive a master's degree from Indiana University. After learning all she could, Neva started her career as a teacher. She affected children's lives at various schools, such as: Fulton, Royal Center, Grass Creek, Burton, Plymouth, Leiters Ford, and Culver Community School. After Neva retired from teaching, that did not slow her down. She was an active member of the Fulton County Republican Women's Club, where she was once awarded Fulton County Republican Woman of the Year. She was also a member in the Royal Center-Cline-Kistler Cemetery Association, Fulton County Farm Bureau, and American Association of Retired Persons. Neva was able to accomplish all of this with the support from her loving husband, Harold.

Harold and Neva were married for 50 years, they were the dream team. Like his wife, Harold was also active in his community. After graduating from Fulton High School, Harold spent his early adult life serving with the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II. After his service, Harold became a lifelong farmer for Rochester Township. He was an active member in many organizations like his wife, such as: Fulton County Farm Bureau, Fulton County Republicans, and Royal Center-Cline-Kistler Cemetery Association. In his spare free time, Harold enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending quality time with his wife.

To show their appreciation for education, Harold and Neva created a scholarship to reach as many students as they could. To be eligible for the Mikesell Scholarship, a student must be a resident of Aubbeenaubbee, Wayne, Liberty, Rochester, or Union Townships in Fulton County. They must be graduating from a public school and plan to attend an Indiana college or university, trade school, business, or secretarial school. Additionally, good citizenship and a good scholastic record are required.

Each year since 1997, five scholarships are given out, one from each township. This scholarship has impacted many students and has allowed them to further their education. Harold and Neva Mikesell's legacy will live on forever through the scholarship, and the lives of the students they have forever impacted.