

## Mr. & Mrs. George Beglane Memorial Scholarship



George and Margaret Beglane were lifelong residents of Springfield and were very strong believers in their children's education, along with the discipline and teamwork that came from sports.

Margaret was the mother of 10 children. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and a nurse in the operating room at Springfield Hospital (Baystate), as well as an Army Nurse at Bradley International Airport during World War II. More importantly, Margaret was the foundation for the growth and development of her children, 21 grandchildren,

and 11 great-grandchildren. Sitting around the kitchen table on Sunday mornings, you would see Margaret and the family sharing stories and supporting each other. The strength of family and togetherness were key lessons she taught us all.

George Beglane was a "jack of all trades." His formal trade was a firefighter for the City of Springfield for more than 30 years. When time allowed, he was a floor sander and he also coached the Holy Name Coaches Club baseball team in Springfield.

George had a passion for sports. A devoted Patriots and Red Sox fan, you could find him shouting at the radio and television helping to urge his team on. Of course, he always had words of advice for the coaches and players on how the play should have been handled if things went wrong! He believed that the discipline and teamwork of sports, along with higher education, would help you be successful in life. This passion for sports, plus the need for an education, was passed on to his children and grandchildren, the majority of whom played sports both at the high school and college level.

Being a coach, George always had advice for members of the family. One of his words of advice to his oldest granddaughter, Kim O'Connell (a Citizens' Scholarship recipient between 1984-1988) before she went to college was, "Never forget where you came from." Kim hopes this scholarship partially fulfills his "words of advice" by helping another female scholar athlete be successful in life.

Written by: Kim O'Connell

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