

Jack & Marge Mulligan Memorial Endowment



In 1962 when I was 5 years old, my mom, Marge Mulligan, became involved in the organizational meetings of the Westfield Citizens' Scholarship Foundation. Mom, along with some of the other founders, including Atty. Ed Lee, Mrs. Angela Holmes, Mr. Ed Wallace and others, began the Westfield CSF to help high school students get assistance with college expenses. Never would they have imagined that college costs would be what they are today, and that CSF would still be here helping out the students of Westfield.

I don't know how many scholarships were given out the first year, but I do know that my mom and the others worked very hard to ensure that CSF would be a success. Mom continued to serve on the board of CSF for many years. There would be meeting nights and countless fundraisers to help make CSF the success it is today.

In 1970 or 1971, CSF launched a new and different fundraiser in the form of grinder sales. It was Super Bowl weekend and dozens of volunteers packed the cafeteria of the Junior High, now the South Middle School. Students and parents made hundreds of cold cut grinders that Saturday morning and then my dad, Jack Mulligan, and many others drove all over town while we kids hopped in and out of the cars running the grinders to the houses. Believe it or not, in 1971 home delivery was a novel idea! The grinder sales lasted for a few years and were a huge hit.



In 1975, I graduated from St. Mary's High School and planned to attend Leicester Jr. College. Mom encouraged me to apply to CSF for a scholarship. That year I received a Westfield CSF scholarship as well as the National Reader's Digest Award which was affiliated with National CSF at the time. I received another scholarship the next year.

Upon graduating from college, it was perfectly clear that along with my other student loans, I MUST also repay Westfield CSF. I can proudly say that every year since 1977, I have made a donation to CSF.

In 1989 my mom passed away, and although she was involved in numerous civic organizations, it was clear to my family that she would want to be remembered for her dedication to CSF. It was then that we started the Marge Mulligan Memorial Scholarship. As you know, the family and donors have absolutely

no input or knowledge of who receives their award. In 1990, the first Marge Mulligan Scholarship was given to the granddaughter of my mom's best friend. This student also just happened to be the niece of one of the first recipients. Mom wasn't actually on the selection committee in 1990, but she still managed to have a say in who received her award!

When my dad passed away in 2003, my brothers and I agreed that we would rename the scholarship after both of them and make it a permanent endowment. It is our hope that the Marge & Jack Mulligan Memorial Endowment will help a Westfield student attend college for many years to come.

We all know how expensive college is today, and I also know that without the help of Westfield CSF and others, I may not have been able to go to college when I did. I urge ALL CSF alumni to pay back what they received and more. If each and every one of us gives just a small amount every year, CSF will continue for another 40 years.

Written by: Jayne Mulligan

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