

Donald & Mary Pierce Memorial Scholarship



Donald Pierce and Mary Jane Stevens were both born in 1926 and grew up near each other in a small town in upstate New York. They were classmates in school and their families knew each other as they confronted the challenges of the Great Depression (Don frequently left the dinner table wishing there had been more to eat).

Don did not finish high school, leaving to enlist in the Navy and serve our nation during World War II. Mary did graduate in 1945 after doing her part in the war with a Victory Garden and writing to numerous classmates serving overseas, including Don, to share news from home and boost their morale.

When Don returned from the Pacific in 1946, things got more serious and they were joined in marriage in 1948 to begin many years of happiness together. They moved to Westfield with their two young boys in the 1950's, and found a welcoming community in which

to live and work. They worked hard and prospered in the home building and carpentry business, joined and were active in First Congregational Church and served in various ways from Little League to Cub Scouts and more.

While a college education, as with so many from their background and generation, was not a possibility, they were both set on one clear goal: both of their boys would have the college education that they did not. We were made to understand from primary school on, this was something that we should strive to attain and they would find the means to afford it.

And they did just that at whatever sacrifice it took. They expected us to contribute and we did, but it was their planning, saving and commitment over many years that gave us the incalculable gift of a solid college education.

Our Mom and Dad were thoughtful and deeply caring parents and individuals in every way. A Memorial Scholarship in their memory as part of the CSF Westfield Dollars for Scholars is but a small recognition of their realization of the value of higher education and the community of Westfield that they held so dear.

Written by: Steve and Kurt Pierce
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