

Keith M. & Dorothea W. Baskins Scholarship



Type: Endowed

Amount: Varies depending on investment income/loss (approximately \$2,000)

Offered: Two per year

Deadline: Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application

Established: 1994

Special Criteria: Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) student with caring approach to patient care, finalists will be interviewed by the Allen College President.

In 1982, Keith and Dorothea Baskins both underwent heart surgeries that taught each of them the value of quality nursing care. Although Dorothea died in 2007, the scholarship she established with her husband, Keith, helps assure that her appreciation for nurses lives on today.

Dorothea wanted to be a nurse as she grew up, but her family did not believe in incurring debt for education, so she was unable to fulfill her dream. Instead, the Baskins endowed the Keith M. and Dorothea W. Baskins Scholarship in 1994 to help a deserving Allen College student with his or her college expenses. In 2000, it began being awarded to two students a year.

Keith was born and raised on a farm north of Cedar Falls and Graduated from Janesville High School. Dorothea was born and raised on a farm south of Cedar Falls and graduated from Hudson High School. The Baskins were far from wealthy during their working years, according to Keith. He worked for 35 years at Rath Packing while Dorothea also worked for 35 years at Northwestern Bell.

The Baskins were active in the Masonic Lodge, the Eastern Star Chapter, their church and other charities. Their hobbies included snowmobiling in the winter and camping in the summer.

"We were just fortunate to have enough to be able to help others like we're doing now at Allen College. It's a real good feeling when you can help, and we're always going to need nurses – it takes a special person," said Keith. "We kept in touch with the student recipients, and we always asked that they consider us as their friends—not as benefactors."

The Baskins' support of Allen goes well beyond their generous scholarship. Keith contributed to Allen's Promises to Keep Campaign and one room in the College's Winter Hall was named for Keith and Dorothea.

"You can't take it with you, and you can't even send for it," he said.