

Debra Peyton Memorial Scholarship

Type:	Endowed
Amount:	Varies depending on investment income/loss (approximately \$750)
# Offered:	One per year
Deadline:	Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application
Established:	2006
Special Criteria:	BSN student.

Debra Peyton was a woman who loved to learn. When she wasn't learning, she was teaching. Her life reflected this affection she had for knowledge.

Debra was born in 1960 in Iowa Falls. Following her graduation from Ackley High School Debra tried different professions until she determined that nursing was her real passion. Debra received her LPN from Ellsworth College in 1990, the same year she married her husband Bruce. As she worked at various hospitals in the area, Debra continued to pursue advanced nursing degrees—fulfilling her desire to learn. She received her RN in 1997 from Ellsworth College.

In 2001 Debra received her BSN and in 2004 her master's degree from Allen College. Three months after graduating with her MSN, Debra became an assistant professor at Allen College. Her love of learning transferred to her students immediately. Debra's entire focus was her students and helping them be successful learners. Always a learner, Debra soon began work on her doctoral degree from UNI.

When Debra died suddenly on September 30, 2006, this scholarship was quickly established. Its purpose seemed very clear to her colleagues and husband—to offer future students the opportunities to enjoy learning as much as Debra did. The recipient should be someone who is dedicated to achieving the goal of becoming a BSN-prepared nurse.

Debra's husband Bruce has a simple but powerful hope: when the scholarship recipient walks down to receive his or her degree, he hopes that someone there is as proud of the recipient and this accomplishment as he was of Debra.