

Andrew C Smith, MD and Murtis Gordanier Smith, RN Endowed Scholarship

Type:	Endowed
Amount:	Varies depending on investment income/loss (approximately \$2,500)
# Offered:	One per year
Deadline:	Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application
Established:	2002
Special Criteria:	Nursing student with financial need and personal attributes such as a caring person.

This scholarship was initially established in 2002 to honor Dr. Smith on his retirement from Allen Hospital by the Hospital administration. The Community Foundation of Waterloo/Cedar Falls and Northeast Iowa also provided a grant for this scholarship. Dr. Smith's wife Murtis continued to build the scholarship and her name was added in 2021 year.

Andrew C. Smith, M.D., born September 8, 1925 in Charles City, Iowa to James M. and Agnes Campbell Smith. He met his wife Murtis (a registered nurse) at the University of Iowa Hospitals in 1951 and they were married in 1952. They have two children, Craig and Karen.

Dr. Smith graduated from Charles City High School in 1943. Following graduation, he completed one semester of college before he was drafted December 11, 1943 into the U.S. Army where he served ten months stateside and 19 months in Europe. Dr. Smith was in combat in WWII in the ETO (European Theatre of Operations) with the 100th Infantry division until the war ended at which time Dr. Smith resumed his education in July 1946 at the University of Iowa. He studied pre-medicine and then entered the University of Iowa's Medical School graduating in 1952.

Murtis Marie Mable Gordanier Smith was born October 13, 1924 in Postville Township, Iowa to Horace Phillip Gordanier and Ella Ida Wilhelmina Meyer.

Following graduation from Postville High School, Murtis financed her own education starting with a post-graduate course in Normal Training in 1942-43. In 1947 she entered the Registered Nurse Program at the University of Iowa. After graduating in 1950 she worked as an R.N. in the Post-Op Recovery room at the University of Iowa Hospital and then in the E.N.T. clinic through May of 1952.

Andy and Murtis met at the University of Iowa and married in 1952. While Andy completed his medical internship and residency from 1952-56 in Detroit, Michigan. Murtis worked at Henry Ford Hospital in the Surgery Outpatient Clinic and as a float nurse. While there two children Craig (1954) and Karen (1956) were born.

The family settled in Waterloo as Andy entered practice with Dr. Herbert Shulman (plus many more partners as Internal Medicine Associates) before retiring in 1990.

Dr. Smith was certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in 1959 and was recertified in 1974. He was elected a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and member of the American Medical Association, Iowa State Medical Society, and Black Hawk County Medical Society. He was also elected into Phi Beta Kappa in 1950.

Dr. Smith's education and military background were an important part of his life. It was part of the reason he was an understanding doctor and good listener. Living in life-or-death situations, he found out at an early age what was important in life.

"I enjoyed the practice of internal medicine. It was greatly rewarding," Andy said. "I always felt if you gave the patient the time, they would tell you what was wrong with them!"

"Andy was very supportive of nurses and recognized how important their assistance was to physicians," said Murtis. "Neither of us had money early on, so he would be happy that I gave to the fund again. And, I feel like I've gone full circle."

Andy died in the fall of 2007 and Murtis in the fall of 2022 but their legacy lives on.