

# E&M Thoms Scholarship



**Amount:** \$400

**# Offered:** One per year

**Deadline:** Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application

**Established:** 1995

**Special Criteria:** BSN student with a minimum GPA of 2.33.

Edna L. Thoms (mother-photo on left) was born and raised on a farm north of Waverly. She was the only female in her rural area to attend high school and attain a teaching certificate. She taught until she got married. She and her late husband (Emil) raised five children instilling in them the love of learning and the importance of education. Edna was very active in rural community activities, especially those related to rural youth. She was also active in church and community work.

Mary Thoms (daughter-photo on right), Edna's and Emil's daughter, was born and raised on a farm east of Waverly. She attended parochial and public schools in Waverly. Mary continued her education and graduated from the following schools & colleges: Iowa Methodist School of Nursing (diploma - RN), Marycrest College (BSN), University of Iowa (MA, PNP). She was employed as a registered nurse, as both a practitioner and in nursing education and has been in nursing education for approximately 30 years. Mary was one of the first faculty at Allen College of Nursing teaching from 1991-2000.

Edna and Mary Thoms are both strongly committed to the need for education. They both recognize the struggle involved in achieving the goals of higher education. Since Mary is involved in nursing education, they felt this would be an excellent opportunity to help a few young people to attain a degree in nursing. They both felt they wanted to help more than just the "A" students, so this scholarship was established based on a student with established success who demonstrates a need for financial assistance. This scholarship was established to help a student achieve their goal, a degree in nursing.