Sage Family Endowed Scholarship



Type: Endowed

Amount: Varies depending on investment income/loss (approximately \$500)

Offered: One per year

Deadline: Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application

Established: 2004

Special Criteria: Mid GPA or better.

Juanita Sage and her husband Eddie weren't content to quietly enjoy their retirement years. Instead, they sought out new ways to give back to their community.

"Our decision to give these scholarships was so greatly influenced by need," says Juanita. "There's such a shortage of nurses and we know it costs a lot of money. Students get such a great education at Allen College - it just seemed like a good thing to do."

Juanita was born and raised in Waterloo, and Eddie in nearby Dunkerton, and although they winter in Arizona, they call lowa their home. Juanita retired from the Department of Human Services after 22 years of service, and Eddie retired from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona where he was a math professor.

They knew they wanted to continue giving back to their community in their retirement years as they had when they were working. Eddie's sister had graduated from Allen's nursing school in 1947 and fondly remembered her experiences there, and Juanita's family members had been patients at Allen Hospital over the years. Their connection to Allen tightened even more when Allen Auxiliary asked Juanita to join their team. Juanita soon was at the helm and served as the Auxiliary's president.

Juanita says, "You couldn't walk out of the hospital and not be grateful that you could be of service to a group of such devoted and skilled professionals. We get to be goodwill ambassadors for patients and guests, and make the hospital as pleasant of an experience as possible so people don't dread coming back.

When asked about establishing a scholarship, Juanita and Eddie are very modest.

"We didn't do it for the notoriety," they said. "We did it because we wanted to help the students. We think they've made a great commitment and we wanted to show our support."

Eddie passed away in 2017.

