

Edward W. Jesse Estate Endowed Scholarship



Type: Endowed

Amount: Varies depending on investment income/loss

Offered: Several per year depending upon investment returns

Deadline: Refer to Allen College Institutional Scholarship Application

Established: 2015

Special Criteria: Preference may be given to applicants who graduated from Black Hawk County or Buchanan County high schools

The estate of Edward W. Jesse, Jr., a Jesup area farmer, donated to Allen College in the form of an endowed scholarship fund that will provide scholarships for Allen College students well into the future.

Edward William Jesse, Jr., died in 2013, at the age of 78. He had been a longtime farmer in Black Hawk and Buchanan counties and was a life-long member of Zion Lutheran Church.

Jesse's nephew, Brad Jesse, is also an area farmer. He said Ed Jesse's sister, Margaret Brust, graduated from Allen College and his father, Edward Jesse Sr., also gave generously to Allen. Two nieces, Margaret Jean (Woods) Russell and Ramona Jesse and grandniece, Alissa (Fehl) Barron, also graduated from Allen College.

Brad Jesse remembers how his uncle would often bring watermelons from his garden to neighbors and family. He said his uncle's estate grew through working hard, saving and investing in the stock market.

"He wasn't one to spend money on himself; he was real frugal," Brad said. "He was a well-informed, intelligent man who worked hard. He followed the news closely and made good investments."

While he never went to college himself, Ed Jesse's gift will go a long way in helping others reap the benefits of higher education and to get started in their careers.

"Mr. Jesse's selfless gift is greatly appreciated by the college and will be appreciated by future students," Durham said.

The Edward W. Jesse Estate Endowed Scholarship will be presented annually to students based on financial need, personal qualifications and signs of academic success. A preference may be given to applicants who graduated from Black Hawk County or Buchanan County high schools.