



Leo and Madeline Hughes Memorial Fund Scholarships

Overview

Scholarships provided by the Leo and Madeline Hughes farm are made possible by a donation of farm land, coordinated by Donald Hughes to honor his parents. The Hughes' were life-long farmers with their sons carrying on this tradition on a Century Farm in eastern Iowa. Leo and Madeline were the proud parents of five sons who cared deeply about the community where they raised their children and farmed. Their legacy lives on through the scholarships made possible through this donation.

Program Goal

The Leo and Madeline Hughes Farm Scholarship proudly supports students who exemplify the skills and abilities required to achieve greatness. The family of Leo and Madeline takes pride in being able to sponsor scholarships to Northeast and Maquoketa High School students who strive for academic and personal excellence. The Leo and Madeline Hughes Farm Scholarship is committed to assisting students to become responsible citizens, who may in the future give back to the Northeast and Maquoketa High School community that nurtured their growth and development.

Application Process

Application materials are available through the Community Foundation's online Scholarship Management System. All applicants must submit a one-page essay describing their academic goals, career goal(s), special achievements and involvement in the community. Students will be awarded \$1,000 scholarships.

Recipient Selection

A Scholarship Selection Committee in both Maquoketa High School and Northeast High School shall be established to review applications and render recommendations to the Foundation for distribution of awards. If a Selection Committee member is unable to serve for whatever reason, the remaining members shall appoint a successor.

- The scholarship selection committee for Maquoketa High School shall consist of the following departments: Language Arts, Career and Technology, Music, Art, Agriculture and Guidance.
- The scholarship selection committee for Northeast High School shall consist of the Guidance, Administration and a Hughes Family Representative.



A scholarship shall not be awarded to a direct descendant of a committee member. If an applicant is a direct descendant of a committee member, such member shall recue him/herself until a decision is made.

Prior to reviewing applications and rendering recommendations on applicants, Committee members shall have read the biography of Leo and Madeline Hughes. Having done this, they will have a better understanding of the type of applicant they should be considering.

Recipient Reporting

The Scholarship Selection Committee shall report the name of the educational institution and recipients to the Foundation within two weeks of selection and prior to making award public information.

Distribution of Award

Although the scholarship is awarded in May of each year, distribution of the scholarship monies will occur the following February and shall be paid directly to recipient's school of higher education. Scholarship money will be distributed only after recipient has successfully completed the first semester of post-secondary education or training program with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 and has submitted a transcript of grades to the Foundation. Recipient must also provide name of school and mailing address of Business/Bursar Office and student name and ID #.

Award Usage: The Award may be used for tuition, fees, books, room and board, and supplies directly related to the educational program in which the student is enrolled.

Eligibility Criteria

Students are eligible to be considered for a Leo and Madeline Hughes Farm Scholarship based on the following *requirements*:

- Recipient(s) will graduate in May of current year from Northeast or Maquoketa High Schools;
- Have cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher (based on a 4.0 scale) at time of nomination;
- Have demonstrated achievement in the areas of Fine Arts (Visual, Music, Theater, Industrial, Culinary) or Agriculture;
- Have an acceptance letter from an institution of higher learning;
- Will be enrolled as a full time student;
- Will have read the biography of Leo and Madeline Hughes

Leo Edward Hughes (September 18, 1903 – April 18, 1988) was born and raised in Brookfield Township of Clinton County, Iowa. His grandfather, Edward Hughes emigrated from Ireland in 1848 during the Potato Famine. His wife to be, Esther, came to America in 1849 and they married in 1852. The couple settled in Brookfield Township and lived in a sod house the first winter. The Hughes families built a mission Catholic Church which had the name of St. Columbkille (An Irish saint who wrote poetry and music, established churches and monasteries, preached the gospel and painted manuscripts.) which was known locally as the Hughes Settlement. It was on the road between the towns of Welton and Lost Nation. They also established the St. Columbkille Cemetery which was a half mile or less north of the site of the church. The cemetery remains maintained to this day and has many Hughes who were victims of the Spanish flu or Influenza of 1917 and 1918 as recorded on their tombstones.

Leo's parents, Richard and Anna, homesteaded 160 acres of land several miles to the north of the Hughes Settlement. They had four children; James, Leo, Agnes and Alice. Richard died while Leo was still in school and him and his brother, James, left school to work the farm at about 16 and 18 years of age. It was reported that Richard died of a ruptured gall bladder. The homestead was then listed in the name of Anna Hughes and passed in 40 acre increments to the four siblings at the time of her death. Leo married Madeline LaFayette and they bought the remaining acres from Leo's siblings, now a century farm. Leo and Madeline were lifelong parishioners of St. Patrick's Church in Delmar, Iowa. Notably, Madeline had attended school at St. Patrick's for some time when she worked in Delmar.

It was reported that the house and other buildings on the homestead had blown away in a tornado of 1898. A replacement house of the same dimensions was found and moved to the foundation of the previous house. The movement of this house by horses was credited to Leo and James. A kitchen was constructed on the south side of the relocated structure and served the Hughes family for many years. In 1959 a new brick ranch house was built just east of the location of the earlier home which had been torn down. Leo was known as a good horseman and could handle a team of Belgians in the fields with considerable authority.

Leo farmed the family homestead with mixed agriculture with beef cattle, milk cows, pigs, chickens and ducks. He raised corn, oats and hay to feed his livestock. He also raised soybeans as a cash crop. He spent a large portion of his farm years (45+ years) using horses to tend the farm. His eldest son's first duty was to follow the drag behind the horse to plow the land. A significant portion of his farm years were spent harvesting corn by hand.

Leo never had a lot of education but was not an ignorant person. He knew things that would not usually be appreciated by similarly educated persons. He had a cynical view of the government

indicating that they cannot take your education away from you. He supported bonds to support the schools and he was a good and reliable contributor to this parish of St. Patrick's in Delmar. He served on the Board which operated the Elwood Telephone exchange until it was taken over by a larger consortium. Leo and Madeline Hughes Memorial Scholarship

Leo loved to watch harness horse races and was a big fan of Dan Patch who was the most famous harness racing horse of the times. Informal betting was arranged in the bleachers for very small sums of money. Leo was a skilled checkers player on his own wooden board and could often be tied but rarely beaten by his sons or grandchildren. In his later years he quit the game because he could no longer beat everyone. Leo enjoyed socializing at several nearby taverns and was well known for his generosity. Leo was easy going and soft spoken. He was very considerate of others and most particularly those who were less fortunate. Leo and Madeline remained on the homestead until a few months before his demise from metastatic prostatic cancer when they moved to Maquoketa.

Madeline LaFayette Hughes (April 24, 1909 - December 12, 2005) was born in Jackson County raised in Hurstville, Iowa. Her father worked as a cooper (barrel maker) at the Hurstville Lime Kilns which still exist just north of Maquoketa but have not operated for about 100 years. She was one of 10 children and they moved frequently to try to improve their circumstances. They later lived in Welton, Iowa, and she attended school there. When she was in her teens she was farmed out as a hired girl to a family in Delmar. While in Delmar she was permitted to attend grammar school at St. Patrick's School when it was in session.

The LaFayette Bridge on the Maquoketa River was named after some LaFayettes who operated a ferry or swing bridge across the river near Spragueville. These people were probably siblings of Madeline's father, Albert. When the bridge was constructed, the ferry business was discontinued.

Madeline married Leo Hughes on September 5, 1929 and resided on the Hughes Homestead for a time with Leo's older brother, James. This was just prior to the Great Depression. Leo and Madeline had five boys spanning 21 years. They included Donald Leo, Paul Richard, Robert Joseph, Thomas James and Dennis Albert. Madeline was an industrious homemaker and always wished she had a daughter to help with the work of feeding, housekeeping, laundering and the many other activities necessary to care for a busy family. She was a person who felt guilty if she permitted herself to take any idle time. She crocheted afghans and names which were framed. She was very adept at gardening and canning. She was a masterful baker of breakfast rolls, cakes and pies. Madeline was very proud of the table service and china she had gotten when they were first married.

Madeline was primarily a homebody and did not seek a lot of social interaction. She was actually somewhat shy and withdrawn. She was knowledgeable on current affairs and read more than most would expect. She was quite well informed but kept her views to herself. She rarely tried to impose her views on others. She frequently saw her brothers and sisters and maintained a close relationship with most of them despite being some distance apart from many. She also kept close contact with her father, Albert, who for a time was a caretaker at the St. Vincent's Orphanage in Davenport, Iowa. The children at the orphanage recognized the name LaFayette as that of a General and they actually referred to him as "General", much to his amusement.

In her later years, Madeline delighted in Scrabble playing her sons, sister, Marie and grandchildren. An avid competitor, she would arrange the game board at their arrival.

Leo and Madeline Hughes Memorial Scholarship Leo and Madeline were lifelong parishioners and steady churchgoers of the St. Patrick's Church in Delmar, Iowa. When their children had become independent they developed a regular social life with other St. Patrick's couples, most notably, the Farrells, the Bennises and the Sheas. This was curtailed as some of the members of this group began dying off. In their later years on the farm, they were frequently looked after by their neighbors, Elmer and Peggy Harder who were devoted and reliable friends.

Fondly composed by their son, Dr. Thomas Hughes M.D. with some additions by Jeanne Hughes-Seyller, their granddaughter and daughter of Donald Hughes and their eldest son, Donald Hughes, who established this scholarship in memory of his parents.

Submitted February 5, 2015



