

# DONOR STORIES

MARJORIE F. LAUBSCHER

## “Majorie F. Laubscher Scholarship Fund”

Building an educational foundation for future generations was always a passion of Marjorie’s. Even from a young age she knew and valued the importance of a strong education and felt her life’s calling was to impact the lives of future generations through her passion- teaching.



MARJORIE F.  
LAUBSCHER

On May 20, 1910 Marjorie Forrestine Laubscher, daughter of John and Pearl Edwards Laubscher, was born on the Laubscher centennial homestead near Buchanan, Iowa. Her family had bought the land and started farming when they moved west from Ohio and Pennsylvania; in fact, the original land grant for the homestead from the United States Government still exists. The family’s land played a very important role in the community because in the 1840’s, Alex Buchanan bought part of Laubscher’s homestead to actually build the town of Buchanan, Iowa.

Marjorie’s family was also an important part of the community even from the beginning. Her Grandfather, Dr. William C. Dodds (1822-1910) was one of the first doctors to live near Buchanan and served the people of that area. Marjorie and her older sister Eloise (6/16/1905-10/24/1993) loved living on the farm and truly valued their community and family.

*“Marjorie and her sister Eloise were also dedicated community philanthropists contributing to many local initiatives over the years- never wanting their names to be attached to such gifts”*

Growing up, Marjorie attended a country school in Cass Township and eventually graduated from Davenport Iowa High School. Her earnest desire to work with young people encouraged her to continue her education. Marjorie earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Iowa and a Master of Arts in Supervision and Social Science Curriculum from Columbia University. Her passion for education continued as she enrolled in additional graduate work at the University of Northern Iowa. This preparation and strong educational foundation provided the skills necessary for 40 enjoyable years of teaching! She began teaching in the Lisbon, Fonda and Carroll, Iowa public schools but spent her remaining 28 professional years at East Waterloo High School teaching and serving as the Social Studies Consultant.

During this time, Marjorie’s mother Pearl passed away on November 18, 1941 at the age of 57. Her father John, born on the farm on January 24, 1883, had spent most of his life raising cattle, hogs and grain on the farm. When Marjorie and her sister Eloise retired from teaching they moved back to operate the farm after their father’s death on September 2, 1965. John and Kathy Schott, who had been working on the farm when Marjorie’s father died, stayed on to help with the farm work. Neither Marjorie nor Eloise had ever married, so the Schott family soon became their family. (In fact, after Marjorie’s death, the Schott’s son and his family moved to live on the Laubscher homestead.) The sisters continued to enjoy several years of country living and spending time with one another. Marjorie also had the freedom to travel extensively before moving to her final home in Tipton, Iowa.

Marjorie was active in many service groups throughout her life. She was a lifetime member of the Iowa State Teachers Association, the American Association of University Women and the University of Iowa Alumni Association. She was also a member of the Hoover Presidential Library Association, the First United Methodist Church, the Cedar County Historical Society, the Nineteenth Century Book Club and an Alumni of Delta Delta Delta Social Sorority. She also shared a passion with her sister in family roots and preserving history. In addition to sharing her talents with these groups, Marjorie had a passion for Iowa Hawkeye basketball and would watch the team whenever she could!

Marjorie and her sister Eloise were also dedicated community philanthropists contributing to many local initiatives over the years- never wanting their names to be attached to such gifts. They were both quiet givers that made charitable things happen for others.

When Marjorie Forrestine Laubscher died on November 29, 2001 she was in the arms of her dear friend Kathy Schott. Kathy was especially saddened at her death as that marked the end of the Laubscher name which had been a part of their area since 1840. Kathy also always knew that Marjorie's heart belonged to East Waterloo High School and her passion for the students would always remain. Through the establishment of the Marjorie F. Laubscher Scholarship, her commitment to education and involvement in her community will live on encouraging East Waterloo High School students to appreciate the value of family, preserving history and to achieve their full potential. Marjorie was a remarkable woman and now her legacy will empower students to pursue their secondary education all the while continuing to make the world a better place, just as Marjorie did.