

DONOR STORIES

DALE AND NORMA HASSMAN “Dale and Norma Hassman Family Fund”

Dale Hassman was born on his parents farm near New Hartford, Iowa, to Harold and Elizabeth Schoeman Hassman. He was the oldest of four children; two boys and two girls. He graduated from Parkersburg High School in 1958. After graduation, he owned a farm supply store in Parkersburg and lived on the farm until he married Norma Smith on July 12, 1968 in Waterloo. During his career he bought and sold farm real estate, including the now Parkersburg Industrial Park. He was also a commercial pilot for 30 years.



NORMA AND DALE
HASSMAN

Norma Smith Hassman was born at St. Francis Hospital in Waterloo to John and Lois Lockard Smith. When she was three months old, her parents moved to a farm northwest of Aplington, where she lived until she went to college. She was the oldest of five children; three boys and two girls. Norma graduated from Aplington High School in 1964, received her B.A. in Library Science from the University of Northern Iowa in 1968 and received her M.A. in 1973. During her 30-year teaching career, she was the first elementary librarian in the Cedar Falls schools in 1968. From there she worked at Dike Elementary, Parkersburg High School, Walnut Ridge Academy and as an instructor in the Library Science department at the University of Northern Iowa.

Both Dale and Norma have been very active in volunteerism in their lives. Dale served as president of Parkersburg Rotary and the Chamber of Commerce. As Chamber president, he started the Parkersburg Fun Days. Norma has volunteered for Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls; served on the board for the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Guild for several years; and served as president of the Association of Community Theatre for the Waterloo Community Playhouse and Blackhawk Children’s Theatre, helping with organizing fundraisers. Norma also served on the board of the Friends of the Library in Cedar Falls for several years.

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After 44 years of marriage, Dale and Norma felt they had been blessed throughout their lives together and wanted to give back and help students who need the extra assistance. They established the Dale and Norma Hassman Family Fund in 2011 and look forward to helping students.

“The Community Foundation provides a conduit to maximize our contribution for years to come to benefit many students. It’s a good feeling to be able to help someone achieve their educational goal,” said Norma.

They have also given over \$10,000 to the Rotary foundation and donated funding for a new children’s addition at the Parkersburg Koethe Public Library.

Although Dale and Norma graduated from separate high schools, they are able to provide scholarships to graduates of both of their alma maters now that Aplington and Parkersburg have consolidated.