

DONOR STORIES

Edna & Don Adams

“Edna Mae & Don Adams Endowment Fund”

Don Adams chose to create a fund with the Buchanan County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, in memory of his wife Edna.

He wishes to continue their dream of giving back to the local Buchanan County area, where they were born and raised, now and in the future.



EDNA & DON ADAMS

Don and Edna (Kress) Adams were both born in Quasqueton, Iowa, and lived within 2.5 miles of each other their entire childhood—Edna grew up 2.5 miles south of Quasqueton. They both completed 1st through 12th grade in Quasqueton, Iowa.

“I noticed Edna in the 9th grade, and in 12th grade we sat across from each other,” said Don. “She was something, she sure was.”

After High School, Edna completed a one-year program at Henager’s Business College. Don attended one year of college in Ames, Iowa, prior to joining the Marines. He was stationed in California and was a sergeant in the Marine Corps from 1942 to 1944.

On August 12, 1944, Don and Edna were married at the Methodist Church in Waterloo, Iowa. Don was drafted into the Army shortly after they wed to serve in the 101st Infantry under General Patton in Germany from 1944-1946. While Don was away, Edna worked for the VA Administration and part time in a bakery.

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Don Adams

In 1952, after living several years in Wyoming, Don and Edna move to Salt Lake City, Utah. Edna’s parents gifted her and her three siblings with Phillip Morris stock they had purchased many years ago. They impressed upon them the values of investing wisely and saving for their future. So for 30 years, Don was an interstate trucker while Edna was the homemaker and investor of the family.

“We had a choice [in Quasqueton High School] to take an extra year of typing or book keeping,” remembers Don. “I took typing, she took book keeping. The next thing I know, her dad gives her some Phillip Morris stock and we have to take the Wall Street Journal everywhere we go!”

While in Salt Lake City, Don and Edna were 40-year members of the Masons and Eastern Star, as well as active members of the Christ United Methodist Church. Don was also a member of the Shrine Band. After Don’s retirement, they joined a square dance group.

For many years, Don and Edna owned a travel trailer and traveled extensively. “We went all over, all of the time,” said Don. “She loved to go.” They would visit Buchanan County, where much of their family lived every year until Edna passed away in February of 2007.

Upon Edna’s passing, Don moved back “home” to be closer to family. Don stayed active by joining the local Masons in Independence, Iowa, and played in the Community Band in Independence and the Shrine Band in Cedar Rapids. He attended the Independence First Presbyterian Church and enjoyed square dancing once a week at the Community Center in Oelwein and the school in Independence. Don also served on the board of the Quasqueton Historical Society.

Don Adams, DOB 7/31/1923

Edna (Kress) Adams, DOB 3/12/1925, Deceased 2/17/2007

Married 8/12/1944