

# DONOR STORIES

## WILLIAM & EILEEN HITCHCOCK

### “Will and Eileen Hitchcock Fund”

Love, friendship and support were not only characteristics that encompassed the lives of Eileen and William Hitchcock but were also the very reasons why the Will and Eileen Hitchcock Fund exists today.

On December 17, 1911, William McClanahan Hitchcock was born in Modale, Iowa and, twenty-eight months later on April 4, 1914, Eileen Lillian Barnard was born in Waterloo, Iowa.

Eileen attended Waterloo West High School and graduated in 1932. Will attended high school in Modale and eventually enrolled for two years at the University of Iowa with the assistance of a basketball scholarship. Will also served in the United States Navy after college for four years.

Throughout his adult life, Will was very actively involved in the Kiwanis Club in Waterloo and enjoyed the various activities. He also served as the manager of the Chapel of Memories in Waterloo for over 50 years. Eileen was employed for over 36 years at Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Waterloo where she held numerous positions, serving the longest as the force adjustment supervisor.

A good friend of Eileen's who worked with her at Northwestern Bell, had a brother who worked with Will at the Chapel of Memories and those two co-workers introduced Will and Eileen in January of 1950. Later that year on October 15, 1950, the couple married at the Walnut Street Baptist Church (now known as Walnut Ridge Baptist Church) in Waterloo. The wedding ceremony was very small and modest with only their attendants present.

*“They were both filled with much wisdom and were such a testimony to the love of their Savior.”*

Even though the couple had no children of their own they had many nieces and nephews who held a special place in their hearts. Will and Eileen traveled extensively to visit them and very much enjoyed the opportunities they had to share in the lives of their nieces and nephews. In addition to traveling to visit family, they also enjoyed bus tours to various vacation spots.

Eileen and Will were also both very involved in their church, Walnut Ridge. They enjoyed the fellowship and especially being around the younger couples. Will and Eileen also “adopted” many of the children in the church as “grandkids” if those children did not have grandparents who could participate in the Walnut Ridge Academy Grandparents Day. The Hitchcocks certainly blessed many lives with their friendship and love.



WILL AND EILEEN HITCHCOCK



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Will died on February 23, 2001 at the age of 89.

Eileen died on Thursday, July 28, 2005 at the age of 91.

The Will and Eileen Hitchcock Fund was established at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa because both Will and Eileen had a strong love for this community and felt this fund would be a wonderful way to share that love and support with the community that offered so much to them over the years.

*COMMENTS FROM DEAR FAMILY FRIENDS RON AND PAULA DYBALL:*

We came to know Will and Eileen through our Church, Walnut Ridge, at a dinner for eight. They were in our group. At that time they were living in their house on Crestview in Waterloo. They were in their 80's at the time, but such an interesting couple. There isn't anything they didn't remember and they knew everyone. Eileen was a picture of grace and style and her house was filled with beautiful antiques, many of which she inherited from her mother. Will doted on Eileen as she did on him. They both loved children and Will especially had a way with them. They loved the younger couples at Walnut Ridge too and entertained them frequently. They were both filled with much wisdom and were such a testimony to the love of their Savior. They had open minds and were not afraid of "change" like so many older ones are. They were an encouragement and inspiration to many. Eileen, even though she has slowed down some and her health has failed, still is the most determined lady we know. Everyone who comes in contact with her is drawn to her and learns to love her very quickly.