

DONOR STORIES

TIM & JUNEAN WITHAM GRADY “Tim & Junean Withamn Grady Family Fund”

Described a warm, loving, faithful friend, Junean Witham Grady had a smile that could light up a room. She was intelligent, creative, interesting, well read, informed, and fun – and would do absolutely anything for those she loved.

Born on April 23, 1944, in Altus, Oklahoma, Junean was the eldest child of Amil Gene and June (Newell) Goschke. Her father was a flight instructor at Altus Air Force Base during World War II. After the war, her family moved to Wellman, IA, where her parents bought the local newspaper. She grew up in Wellman, graduating from Mid Prairie High School in 1962. She earned a B.A. degree from the University of Northern Iowa in 1966 and her M.A. in 1997.



TIM & JUNEAN WITHAM GRADY

“Junean shared her many passions with others and was a great advocate for women.”

Junean was a tremendous mentor for younger women and her peers with less leadership experience. As a high school student, Junean decided to enter a science fair with a project on blood types. In her town of 1,000 people, Junean did 1,000 blood tests. People lined up for the honor of having Junean prick their fingers. She outdid every other young scientist in Iowa, winning the school, district, and state science fairs and earning a science scholarship to UNI. She broke barriers when males dominated the

sciences and continued to be a pathfinder so women could reach their full potential, whatever their interests and goals were.

In 1966, Junean married Dick Witham in Wellman. They were married for 28 years and had two sons, Jason and Jeremy. In 2001, Junean married her high school sweetheart, Tim Grady, in Richmond, Iowa.

During her life, Junean was a beloved biology teacher at Fort Dodge and Cedar Falls High Schools, worked as a supervisor of students for UNI’s Camp Adventure, was a Doncaster wardrobe consultant and was a researcher at ME&V.

Junean was also a very active volunteer leader in the Cedar Valley and in Iowa. She was involved in the Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls, serving as President as well as being the recipient of the Golden Rose Award. Junean was committed to UNI, serving on the Alumni Board of Directors, the Athletic Policy Board and Athletic Advisory Board, the Panther Scholarship Fund and the founding committee for the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. She was also a Board Member for Iowa’s Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1996, was a founding member of Silos and Smokestacks, and worked on the state level to prevent adolescent substance abuse. Junean served on many boards including the

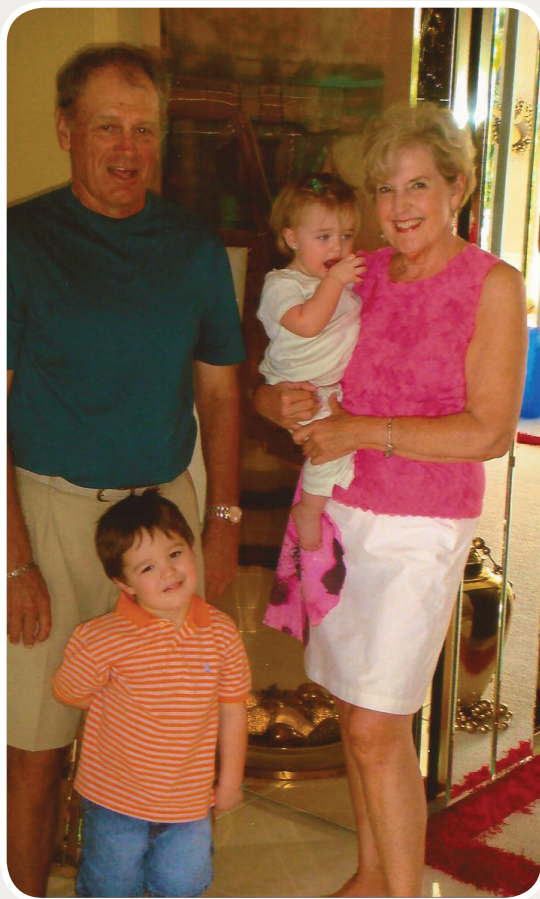
YWCA, the patient care review board for Harmony House and the Transitional Living Center Committee for brain-injured.

Junean loved to read, travel, discuss politics and current events, follow sports (especially UNI athletics), cook and entertain. Above all, she loved to spend quality time with her family and many good friends.

Junean was an incredible relative, friend, community leader, and mentor. She shared her many passions with others and was a great advocate for women. She was always excited about women being successful and young women having opportunities.

Sadly, Junean lost a courageous battle with cancer on February 11, 2010. In her memory and in honor of the Tim and Junean Witham Grady Family, the "Tim and Junean Witham Grady Family Fund" was established at the end of 2010. The fund is a designated fund and income from the fund will go to the Women's Fund held at the Community Foundation to support women and girls' issues in the Cedar Valley. Now Junean's legacy will live on forever through the grants given in her name. ❖

Historical vignette prepared by the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.



Tim & Junean with two of their grandchildren.



Junean had a close circle of friends. From left: Joan Duea, Judy Jorgensen, Vivian Martin, Junean Witham Grady, Cathy Young, Marlene Behn, Noreen Hermansen