The
Terrence and Jean McGuire Carden Memorial Scholarship

Terrence Carden
Jean McGuire Carden
Terrence Carden and Jean McGuire both set out in life to be schoolteachers. Both were college graduates at a time and place when that was not commonplace. Both had their career expectations disrupted by the Great Depression.

Terrence found himself competing in an examination for one of the few secure employment opportunities available – the U.S. Postal service. He was successful, and spent the next 42 years as a postal worker. After World War II, he was assigned as superintendent of the South Scranton branch on Cedar Avenue and spent most of the rest of his career there.

Terrence was a man of routine and attention to details. He walked three or so miles to work every morning, tipping his hat in greeting every woman he encountered. He walked back and forth at lunchtime and again in the evening.

Times were difficult in the mid-1930s when Terrence and Jean married. Jean had been a teacher in the Scranton School District. She was required to resign that position following her marriage so a qualified man with a family to support could have the opportunity. That’s how different it was in those days. Equal employment opportunity was a concept for the future.

Neither Terrence nor Jean forgot their original career intentions. Education was a prime family value. Teachers were always
right, no matter the facts, and it was expected that the Carden children would, at a minimum, complete college. Jean ultimately returned to teaching and eventually retired from the Scranton School District. For the rest of her life, whenever she encountered children she invariably inquired about what they were learning in school. Education was a primary interest and a core value.

College for the Carden boys was The University of Scranton, the former St. Thomas College that had awarded Terrence his Baccalaurei Artium in 1928. The University prepared Terrence Jr. for a graduate degree in journalism from Columbia University and an early career in that discipline. It prepared Edward for Jefferson Medical College and a career as an otolaryngologist.

And later, the University was there again for Terrence Jr. when he returned to complete his premedical requirements prior to admission to Jefferson Medical College and a career in emergency medicine.

There is no doubt that both Terrence and Jean would be pleased and proud that this scholarship, established by Terrence Jr. in their memory, will assist deserving young men and women – the sons and daughters or grandchildren of postal workers, schoolteachers or journalists – in their quests for an education at The University of Scranton.
The generosity of alumni and friends who have endowed scholarships at The University of Scranton makes it possible to provide financial assistance for outstanding students who might not otherwise be able to pursue a college education. A named, endowed scholarship becomes a living tribute or memorial and allows the donor to participate in a unique way in the ongoing educational mission of The University of Scranton. Donors typically designate the type of students eligible for the scholarship and its permanent name or title. For more information, contact the University’s Office of Institutional Advancement.