

John and Lola Rindgen Memorial Scholarship



John and Lola Rindgen were lifelong residents of West Pittston. They had one daughter, Patricia, who graduated from West Pittston High School and received her BS degree in Elementary Education from Bloomsburg University. In addition she received her Master's Equivalency from Penn State University. Patricia spent the majority of her teaching career in Lawrence Township, New Jersey. She taught 5th grade for most of her career which spanned 34 years. Her love of children and success as a teacher were recognized and she was named "Teacher of the Year" in 1992. Parents of Patricia's students

were so impressed by her zeal and enthusiasm they had June 11, 1992 designated "Patricia Rindgen Day" in Lawrence Township. One of Patricia's main goals in teaching Social Studies was to emphasize American History and Government. A highlight of this study included her students serving on the Lawrence Township council at a regular evening meeting.

Her love of education did not end with her retirement. She substituted at Apple Tree/Susquehanna Preparatory School and Wyoming Seminary Lower School for many years. Both of Patricia's parents instilled in her a love of education, a strong work ethic and a solid Catholic upbringing.

Patricia's parents did not have the opportunity for a college education but knew of its value. They were hardworking, loving and supportive parents and worked many jobs to insure their daughter a college education. This is a success story of two people from humble beginnings. Before Mr. Rindgen began his career as an electrical contractor, John worked for Continental Can, Purvin Dairy and for electrical contractors learning all he could from veteran workers. He and his wife spent time operating a dry cleaning business and ran a shoe store in West Pittston. He was an active member of the Immaculate Conception (now Corpus Christi) Parish serving as an usher, a faithful worker and a member of the Holy Name Society. Before her death in 1978, Lola was active in her church and community too. She was a dedicated member of the Altar and Rosary Society of Immaculate Conception Parish, the West Pittston Woman's Club and the Pittston Hospital Auxiliary serving as President of each at one time during her membership.

Patricia's devotion to her parents was evident to all who knew them. In her father's later years they enjoyed many happy times together including wonderful vacations to many parts of the world. Mr. Rindgen often spoke of giving some deserving student a chance to further his/her education. With his death in 2011 at the age of 96, his daughter thought it time to make this dream a reality by establishing this award in her parents' memory. By offering this award she will keep her parents' memory alive for a long time.

In memory of her parents, Lola and John, Patricia has established this scholarship which will award \$1,500.00 to a Wyoming Area graduating senior who has been accepted to a two or four (4) year college/university pursuing a career working with children. Consideration will be given to majors such as teaching, child social work, child psychology, therapist, librarian and speech pathology. The award

will be given in two equal installments. The first installment will be awarded at the Celebration in May the year of the recipient's high school graduation and the second installment will be awarded at the end of Semester I (January of the following year) upon receipt of the recipient's official college transcript which shows at least a 2.8 overall GPA with at least passing grades (C or better) in all enrolled college courses.

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Criteria: Applicants must be a graduating Wyoming Area senior who has been accepted to a two or four (4) year college/university pursuing a career working with children. Consideration will be given majors such as teaching, child social work, child psychology, therapist, librarian and speech pathology. Selection of the recipient of this award will be made by a selection committee appointed by Patricia.

ESSAY: In a solid essay of at least 500 words explain why you have an interest in working with children telling how this interest developed.

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