

# Ellen Olmsted Kottwitz Memorial Scholarship for Nursing



Born in Bonne Terre, Missouri in March 1939, Ellen Olmsted was always fond of her hometown, church, and school. She sang in the United Methodist Church choir, was an active participant in 4-H Club, and was involved in numerous school activities including choral groups, cheerleading, volleyball, and the school paper. She was homecoming queen in 1956.

She graduated from Bonne Terre High School in 1957 and that fall enrolled in St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing in St. Louis. She graduated as a Registered Nurse in September 1960.

In February 1960, she married Cleo Kottwitz who, at that time, worked with the University of Missouri Extension Service with responsibility for 4-H Clubs in St. Francois County. Later, he became an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church. As they moved from church to church, Ellen worked as a nurse in numerous hospitals and served as Head Nurse of the OB/GYN floor of Audrain Medical Center in Mexico, Missouri from 1980 – 1984. Later, she worked as a Community Health Nurse in the Washington, Phelps, and Texas County Health Departments and was instrumental in organizing the Phelps County Pre-Natal Clinic in 1987. Both in Rolla and Houston, she involved United Methodist Women's groups in providing layettes for low income mothers with babies.

The center of Ellen's life was her family. She was a devoted mother of three, two sons and a daughter, and rejoiced in her seven grandchildren.

Ellen and her husband retired in June 1997, and moved to Columbia, Missouri. She died in August 1999, from an incurable infection which developed following liver transplant surgery.

THE ELLEN OLMSTED KOTTWITZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP is for graduates of North County High School in Bonne Terre, Missouri, who are enrolled in an accredited nurses training program, seeking to become a Registered Nurse or to obtain the Bachelor of Science-Nursing (BSN) degree.

Preference will be given to students in financial need, who might not be able to attend without assistance, and for those who have a strong aptitude for nursing, i.e. they are entering nursing because of their commitment to caring for people who are ill. Hopefully, the student's grades will be average or above, but an exception might be made if the school counselors and church committee believe the student has the ability to do the work and has a strong commitment to nursing.

The scholarship will be available both to graduating seniors and to graduates from previous years who are enrolled in nurses training for the RN or BSN. A student who has received the scholarship in a previous year may re-apply, and the church committee will decide whether to give it to the same student again or to another applicant.

Application for the scholarship shall be made through the Counselor's Office of North County High School, and selection of the recipient shall be made by a committee designated by the Administrative Council of the Centenary United Methodist Church of Bonne Terre.

This is an endowed scholarship with funds invested by the Missouri United Methodist Foundation. The annual income from the endowment, estimated at \$1,000, will be made available by a check from the Foundation made to both the student and the institution where the student is enrolled.



MISSOURI UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

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