

Lawrence & Gracia Herbert

Scholarship Fund



Gracia and Lawrence Herbert (Circa 1947)

Gracia Lorena Smith was always adventurous. She attended Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, Iowa and taught school for four years. She went to France with the Red Cross after WWII to help servicemen before they returned home. After WWII she met her husband, Larry Herbert, a recently returned veteran. Larry was an excellent businessman who opened and operated a variety of businesses when they lived in Tampa, Florida

and Lamoni, Iowa. Travel was a special passion for them and they lived on the road several years, pulling an Airstream trailer, visiting almost every state - many of them twice. They had no children of their own, but everyone they met became a part of their family. After their travels, Gracia and Larry settled in Bolivar, Missouri for the remainder of their retirement years.

Although Larry had not been able to complete a formal education, they both knew the advantages and costs of having a college degree. To help with college expenses, Larry and Gracia provided a generous gift to the Missouri United Methodist Foundation which will provide scholarships to students at Central Methodist University in Fayette, Missouri or Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City.

A few years ago they moved from Bolivar, Missouri, back to Lamoni, Iowa, Gracia's hometown. Larry died in April 2013 at age 93, but Gracia celebrated her 99th birthday in 2018!