

James U. and Betsy Guthrie Health Scholarship

The Guthrie Family Creates Funds at the Miami County Community Foundation

Miami County students pursuing a career in health care and charitable organizations are the beneficiaries of two new funds created by Betsy Guthrie and her children, Tom J. Guthrie, Helen Beth Gutin and Abbie J. Guthrie. The funds honor the Guthrie Family's legacy as providers of good and long lasting health.

The first - the James U. and Betsy Guthrie Health Scholarship -- is designed for students pursuing a degree in any form of health care. Students must be active in school, work and community and have attended high school in Miami County. Those who are "non-traditional" students are also encouraged to apply.

"We are third generation doctors here in Peru," said Betsy. "Health care is important in our family."

The scholarship honors the memory James U. Guthrie MD who passed away in May of 2012. James and Betsy both graduated from Indiana University. Betsy from the School of Nursing in 1949 and James from the School of Medicine in 1950, who then completed three years of surgical residency at the Indiana University School of Medicine, and one year as Chief Resident of Surgery at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lafayette.

"Not a day goes by that we don't meet someone who knew Jim," said Betsy. "I thought this was a wonderful way to perpetuate his memory."

James and Betsy moved to Peru in 1959 where James devoted himself to the practice of General Surgery. Their children continue to serve the physical and spiritual health of their communities. Tom Guthrie DDS, has a dental practice in Peru Indiana, Helen Beth Gutin is a nurse practitioner at the Cleveland Clinic and Abbie Guthrie is a pharmacist and Healthcare Chaplain. With a combined background of helping others, the family also created a separate fund to support charitable organizations.

The second fund -- the Guthrie Family Endowment Fund -- is designed to support charitable organizations. With the creation of this fund, the family can grant funds to charitable organizations that hold a mission and purpose that is important to the Guthrie family.

"With the endowment we can help where the need is greatest," said Betsy. "My children are behind me one hundred percent and are very excited about it. We have been blessed and we want to share."

By creating these funds with the Miami County Community Foundation, the Guthrie family will continue to serve the community while honoring their husband and father who instilled in them a passion for healing.

