

Gregory Myron Haugen Memorial Endowment

Gregory Myron Haugen was born February 13, 1957, in Litchfield, Minnesota, son of Myron and Army Haugen. His family moved to Dassel, Minnesota, in 1961, and in 1968, when he was eleven years old, Greg's family moved to Devils Lake, North Dakota. He graduated from Devils Lake Central High School and enrolled in the drafting program at Lake Region Junior College*.

The Haugen family was a busy household with six children to raise—Greg and five sisters—and a business to launch. Greg's parents had brought their young family to Devils Lake to establish the Nordic Fiberglass Company. Their hard work and sacrifice paid off when the business venture became a great success.

Greg was very interested in the family business and worked in various roles with the company throughout high school. To expand his skills, he transferred from LRJC to a university to continue his studies in engineering. He was a gifted entrepreneur. During his short life, his energies were focused on developing skills to strengthen the Nordic Fiberglass enterprise. Then, as now, the business manufactured a variety of products for

electrical utilities to use in the distribution of high-voltage utilities.

In 1986, Nordic Fiberglass moved its headquarters to Warren, Minnesota, but maintained a significant operation in Devils Lake. Greg stayed to manage the Devils Lake plant for a year before he also moved to Minnesota in 1987.

The Haugen family dream to have their son, Greg, play a leadership role in the business they had built together was shattered on April 21, 1989, when Greg died in a tragic accident.

Years later, Myron and Army Haugen read an article in the Lake Region State College newsletter, *Branches*, which featured the college's plan to develop a training program for wind turbine technicians. They knew that Greg would have

been excited to see the rapid expansion of this new power technology, and they decided that a gift to establish an endowed scholarship in Greg's name would be a fine way to remember their son. The Haugens have requested that funds produced by this gift be used to provide scholarships for students enrolled in the Wind Energy Technician program at Lake Region State College. The first awards were made during the 2009-2010 school year. ✦



* Lake Region Junior College was re-named Lake Region State College in 1999.