

Marvin Linde

Scholarship Endowment

What happens in elementary school affects life's outcomes!

Elementary educators support this statement, and Marvin and Carol Linde know it to be true from personal experience. Therefore, they are directing their endowment earnings to provide encouragement and support for students who plan to become teachers for elementary school children.

Marvin grew up in the Churchs Ferry, North Dakota, area and remembers choosing a seat in the front row of his elementary class. Because he was big for his age, teachers moved him to the back of the room so that smaller children could see the blackboard. But learning was more difficult for Marvin in the back row, and he fell behind. Years later, he realized that he was coping with a profound hearing loss and dyslexia. Independently, he developed coping strategies—copying the textbook by hand helped him memorize the content, and sitting close to the speaker minimized hearing challenges—and in 1958 he graduated from Lake Region State College. Now a strong student, he transferred to Jamestown University where he met his wife, Carol, and eventually he completed a teaching degree at Valley City State University.

Today, dyslexic learning challenges are better understood, and cochlear implant technology has

improved hearing for many, including Marvin. But elementary teachers remain critical to the

process of identifying and supporting young students who face challenges.

Marvin and Carol married in 1960 and pursued careers in education and nursing. In 1978, after an extended family camping trip that included stops in California, Yellowstone National Park, and other KOA Campgrounds along the way, they decided camping was a lifestyle they enjoyed. They acted on

Marvin's dream to own his own business, purchased the KOA in Billings, Montana, and moved there from North Dakota. Through the years, the couple's three sons helped with the work and learned the business of running campgrounds and motels. Gradually, additional campgrounds and motels were acquired in Yellowstone, Billings, and the region. Today, Marvin and Carol's sons and their families operate the businesses.

Marvin and Carol are enjoying their retirement and the time for reflection it provides. They are pleased to fund this scholarship endowment. It will encourage and support LRSC students as they open doors to better lives through education. ■

