

# David and Jamie Nienhuis

## Family Endowment

**D**avid and Jamie Nienhuis farm in Triumph Township near Lawton, North Dakota. David began farming alongside his father at a very young age and officially took over operation of the farm in 1982 upon the retirement of his parents, Edward and Violet Nienhuis. In 1987, David married Jamie Blessing of Stanberry, Missouri, bringing her into the farming operation.

David was born in the Edmore Community Hospital (now the Edmore Rest Home!) and raised on the family farm near Lawton. He attended first grade at Lawton Public School and grades 2-10 at Edmore Public School. He attended Springvale Academy near Owosso, Michigan, his junior and

senior years, graduating in 1975. Upon graduation, David was unsure of his future aspirations. His parents, believing strongly in the importance and value of higher

education, encouraged him to enroll at Lake Region Junior College in the automotive program. While attending LRJC, David discovered he had a gift for repairing things and excelled in the classes of the automotive and diesel programs.



David finished the Automotive Technology program in 1977 and continued with and finished the Diesel Technology program, graduating in 1978. After graduation, David maintained contact with the instructors he so appreciated while a student. David has a strong interest in continuing his own

education, especially in the areas of agriculture marketing, modern farming practices with the use of technology, and agronomic improvement. He serves on the Ramsey County Crop Improvement Association Board promoting production of new varieties of seed best adapted to our area of the state and the use of quality seed.

David was the first Nienhuis to attend LRJC. His sisters, Bonnie and Ronda, also attended LRJC. Bonnie earned an Associate in Arts degree and an Executive Clerical Certificate. Ronda earned her diploma in Practical Nursing.

Jamie was born in Cameron, Missouri. She attended King City Public School at King City, Missouri, through tenth grade. She finished high school at Springvale Academy, graduating in 1979.

Jamie became a registered nurse in 1982 after graduating from St. Luke's School of Nursing in Kansas City, Missouri. She worked at hospitals in Albany and St. Joseph, Missouri, before marrying David and moving to the great state of North Dakota. Since moving to North Dakota, Jamie has worked at Cavalier County Memorial Hospital in Langdon. She has filled a number of nursing roles there and is currently Director of Nursing. After more than thirty years as a nurse, Jamie returned to school and received a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Western Governors University in 2014.

Continuing education beyond high school is as important to David and Jamie as it was to their parents, and they have

encouraged their children in this pursuit. As of this writing, three of their four children have attended and graduated from Edmore Public School and Lake Region State College. Anna received an Associate in Science degree from LRS and continued her education at Sanford College of Nursing in Bismarck, North Dakota, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. James received an Associate in Applied

Science degree in Automotive Technology from LRSC and then continued his education, receiving an Associate in Applied Science degree in Diesel Technology with a Case-



IH emphasis from North Dakota State College of Science, Wahpeton, North Dakota. John received an Associates degree and an Associate in Applied Science degree in Precision Agriculture from LRSC and will also continue his education. Mary, the youngest, will also be encouraged to attend LRSC after she graduates from Edmore Public School.

During the years the Nienhuis children have attended LRSC, they have received scholarships that have been provided by endowments established by others through the Community College Foundation. Realizing the blessings of, and in appreciation for the education the family has received from LRSC, David and Jamie are pleased to be able to establish an endowment to help advance the education of future students attending Lake Region State College. They have requested that priority be given to students pursuing careers in agriculture or health care. ●