

James D. Wakefield Memorial Scholarship

— 1944-1967 —

The James D. Wakefield Memorial Scholarship was established by Dan and Victoria Hoffman Wakefield to honor their son Jim and to advance education of Lake Region State College students who demonstrate good character, a commitment to learning, and a zest for life.

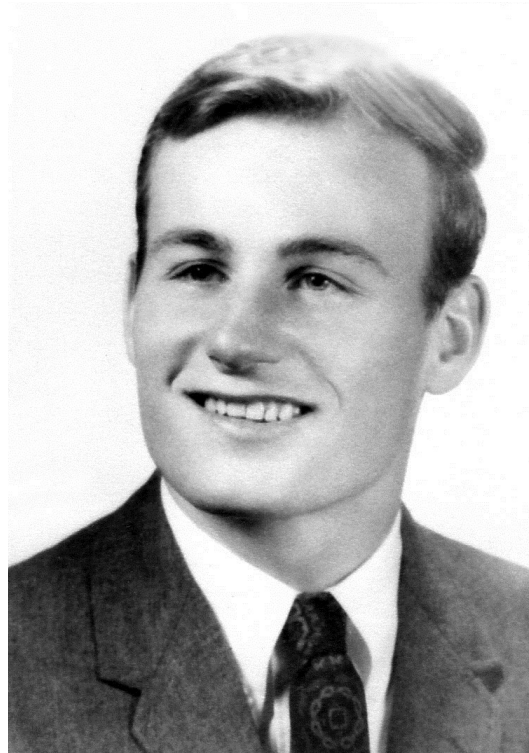
James D. Wakefield was born in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, on October 30, 1944, and moved to Devils Lake, North Dakota, in 1946. Third of the eight Wakefield children, he attended St. Joseph School and was a newspaper boy, an altar boy, and a Boy Scout. As a student at Devils Lake High School, Jim was a letterman in football, hockey, and track.

After graduating in 1963, Jim attended Lake Region State College and then transferred to the University of North Dakota where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta, the University Ski Club, and the UND Flying Club. As a member of the Flying Club, Jim was instrumental in the founding of the UND chapter of Alpha Eta Rho, the national honorary society of aviation students. In succeeding years, Alpha Eta Rho has played an important role in the growth of the UND Aviation Department and its eventual transformation into the Center of Aerospace Studies. The Phi Delta Theta newspaper said, "*Jim was a fierce com-*

petitor, whether it was in a college course, on the athletic field, or on the ski slopes." They dedicated their library the James Wakefield Memorial Library.

After his graduation with a bachelor of philosophy in January of 1968, Jim continued to work for his father at Wakefield Flight Service as he had done in his earlier years, but now he was a licensed aerial applicator, a flight instructor, and a commercial pilot. He was well known and liked throughout Devils Lake where his community involvement included active membership in the Devils Lake Council of the Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

On June 23, 1967, while spraying southwest of Edmore, Jim's plane crashed. Badly burned, he was quickly pulled from the flaming wreckage by his younger brother, Tom, a real hero. Jim's father flew him to Rochester ... and several days later flew him home to be buried in



St. Joseph's Cemetery in Devils Lake.

James Wakefield's parents; his brothers Robert, Richard, Thomas, and Daniel; and his sisters Mary and Jacqueline wish to remember and wish others to remember Jim's life as one filled with energy and perseverance, talent, and involvement. They have, therefore, fittingly established this scholarship to further the achievement of others. ★