Rudolph was born and raised on the prairies of North Dakota with family roots in both Denmark and Norway. Farming was his life-long passion. He loved to plant his fields in straight rows and watch them grow. Shelterbelts were an important part of his farming strategy. After retiring from farming, he lovingly attended a beautiful garden.

Anne Moen immigrated from Ringebu, Norway, to live with relatives in the Starkweather area. Her first jobs in America included doing housework and cooking in a cook car for the many men on the threshing crews during harvest season. Anne met Rudolph at a Sons of Norway dance, and it was love at first sight. They married and settled on the Sather farm in Coolin Township of Towner County. Through the years, they expanded their farming on the Olson and Jensen farmsteads and raised their family of three daughters.

Rudolph and Anne lived by an ethic that required them to always do their best. Anne always stressed the importance of sharing with those in need. The Hansons also emphasized the importance of education. Rudolph and Anne encouraged their daughters to be active in the different aspects of education as they grew up and provided support as much as they were able. Schoolwork and studying were very important. Books, magazines, and newspapers were read daily. College and/or further education were the expected paths their daughters would follow.

This scholarship was established by the three daughters of C. Rudolph and Anne Hanson—Rubie (Donald) Brintnell of Devils Lake; Joan (Pastor Gerald) Check of Lake Tomahawk, Wisconsin; and Clarine (Dale) Anderson of Starkweather—as a loving tribute to their parents and the importance their parents always placed on education.