Walter M. and Helen M. Hanson were both born and raised in the Lake Region, Walter near Webster and Helen closer to Devils Lake. They were married in 1948 and had two children, Armen and Connie Lou.

The Hansons made their home west of Devils Lake where they farmed and raised cattle. “We’re a hard-working family,” says son Armen. “I remember throwing a lot of square hay bales and shoveling a lot of silage.”

Helen enjoyed working as a farm wife and mother, and although she is now retired, she likes to stay active in the community and church. Walter served on the Federal Land Bank and Devils Lake Farmers Union Elevator boards and led 4-H groups for many years. They are both active at the Devils Lake Senior Citizens Center and enjoy delivering meals to their home-bound friends.

The Hansons always assumed their children would attend college, and both did so. Armen attended Lake Region State College the first year it was located in its current building and was a member of the first class to graduate from there with a two-year degree. Connie Lou also graduated from college and farms with her husband near Fessenden.

Walter and Helen have established this endowed scholarship as a way of thanking the community for supporting them in making their life in agriculture successful. They would like to invest in the future of the Lake Region and Lake Region State College by providing scholarships for agriculture students.