

Altringer Family Endowment

arvey Altringer established the Altringer Family Endowment to honor Dorothy, his beloved wife of 62 years, and to remember two special grandchildren—Tracy and Cole Altringer—whose lives were cut short due to serious health issues.

Harvey and Dorothy Altringer lived in Devils Lake, North Dakota, for more than twenty years and raised ten children—Myrna, Lyle, Larry, Jerry, Robert, Joan, Dick, Allan, Jay, and Steven. As might be expected, the Altringer household was a lively place. It was also an environment where children were valued and loved. Harvey and Dorothy were devoted to their family and did their part to strengthen the community's family-friendly resources.

When her house was full of children, Dorothy's primary focus was the home and all who entered. Dorothy was well known as a great cook who subscribed to an open-door policy. Neighborhood kids always felt welcome in the Altringer home and at their table. Saturday night was Dorothy's baking night, and she rarely went to bed without filling the counters with cookies and buns. Altringer family hunting outings on Sunday mornings always featured sandwiches on freshly baked buns accompanied by delicious cookies.

Dorothy insisted that the noon-time meal be family time. Everyone respected her rule and shared

their plans and problems over lunch. One oftendiscussed topic was the importance of a good education. Dorothy and Harvey strongly encouraged all their kids to make plans to attend college, and eight of the ten completed college degrees.

Harvey managed the meat departments in two Devils Lake groceries—first, Red Owl and later, Leevers Grocery. In his spare time, he worked on youth-oriented activities. He was co-chairman of the community's first ice show. He helped start the Teen Canteen, a gathering place for youth, and co-chaired the campaign to put up lights in the baseball park. He was president of the Devils Lake Band Board and active in the Quarterback Club and Jaycees. And whenever time allowed, he loved to hunt and fish.

Together, Harvey and Dorothy Altringer worked together to raise a healthy family and to help the community nurture its youth. Eventually the Altringer family moved to Minot where Harvey managed the commissary at the Air Force Base and later to Henderson, Nevada. But, their hearts stayed with the Lake Region community and its families.

The Altringer Family Scholarship is an expression of their commitment to the community and to education. The scholarship is awarded annually to a Lake Region State College student who faces financial barriers in his or her quest for an education. •