

Everett and Mabelle Chamley Memorial Scholarship

Everett and Mabelle Chamley were raised in Trent South Dakota along the Big Sioux River. They were classmates, fell in love, and were married for 75 years. They each lived to be 98 and passed away in the summer of 2014 within two months of each other. In the final days, Everett stated that his only regret was that he and Mabelle were never able to have any children of their own. With the love for their community, and valuing the young people that live in it, they have decided to leave the bulk of their estate to the Marshfield High School Community and Memorial Scholarship Fund.

As a young man, Everett tried his hand at the family business, which had been farming. Trying to make a living farming through the Dust Bowl years and the Great Depression proved extremely difficult. Finally, a plague of locust that blacked the skies and ate his crops to the ground convinced him to seek other career options. Just prior to World War II he did road construction in South Dakota.

Everett first came to Coos Bay during WWII where he was assigned to duty at the airport. He liked the climate much better than the extremes of South Dakota, and soon sent for Mabelle to join him. He was a member of the blimp team, a firefighter, and crash team member. He worked more than 70 crashes during the war years.

After the war, Everett and Mabelle decided to remain in Oregon where the lumber industry was booming. He spent time working in lumber mills in Springfield and in 1964 made the move to Coos Bay where he worked for the Coos Bay Lumber Company in Bunker Hill. In his final working years, he worked for the Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau as a lumber grader.

Mabelle, like Everett, had a variety of work experiences and careers. She was a telephone switch board operator, worked for JC Penney, and owned and operated her own beauty shop. Later in life she went back to school at SWOCC where she learned to operate computers. She was later hired by SWOCC to work on their computer system until her retirement in 1979.

In their retirement years, Everett and Mabelle enjoyed snowbirding in Yuma, Arizona, where they enjoyed the warm winters playing cards, night clubbing and dancing with friends, many of which were from the Coos Bay area.

With love for their community, and in particular the young people in it, Everett and Mabelle's estate has the opportunity to assist young people in furthering their educations and fulfill their dreams for years to come.