

## DEAN AND DIXIE SHELDON VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP



Dean and Dixie Sheldon came to Marshfield in 1952 as teachers. The late Dean Sheldon served in many capacities.... Coaching, Athletic Director, Dean of Students, Vice Principal, and Assistant to the Superintendent. They both provided leadership to individuals and to the community for over 30 years. Dean's personal wish for every student was that they would become a contributing member of society.

Dixie was born in Pomona, California in 1924, the first of two daughters of worldly and well-educated parents. She developed an early love of books, people, and ideas. The Great Depression years were formative, as Dixie grew to appreciate her good fortune and to value the importance of fair opportunities for all.

She was the valedictorian of her high school class and attended Santa Barbara College for two years before enlisting in the WAVES Division of the U.S. Navy. While stationed at the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot at Hawthorne, Nevada, Dixie met Dean, a natural raconteur, athlete, and outdoorsman who loved music and had a bent toward the theatrical. They were married in Los Angeles on December 1, 1945.

They attended the University of Oregon in 1946. In addition to their studies in health and physical education, Dixie and Dean spent part of a summer bicycling through Western Europe. After returning to Eugene, Dixie began teaching at Willamette High School during its opening year.

Dixie and Dean moved to North Bend in 1951 and later relocated to Coos Bay. From the start, Dixie loved being part of this community – the people, the flowers, the green, the water. To Dixie there was no better place on earth than the Coos Bay Area for making friends, raising her family, and getting involved.