

## SCHMITZ-PETITTI SCHOLARSHIP FUND

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHEAST IOWA

here for good.



"Education is the most important gift you can give."

RICH AND PATTI SCHMITZ
Fund Co-Founders

Rich and Patti (Petitti) Schmitz met and married in Waterloo, Iowa. Patti received her bachelor's degree from Clark College in Dubuque, IA before starting her 30-year career at John Deere. Rich also worked at John Deere while earning his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University

of Northern Iowa. After nearly 30 years, Rich retired from John Deere and continued his career at Hawkeye Community College before eventually retiring to farming. The couple raised their four children in Waterloo who all earned degrees from The University of Iowa.

Rich and Patti have always been active members in the community and highly value service as well as education. Rich's involvement with the technical programs at Hawkeye Community College inspired them to establish the Schmitz-Petitti Scholarship Fund, which allows the Hawkeye Community College Foundation to award one-year scholarships (with the ability to reapply for up to three years) to students who demonstrate financial need and who are pursuing a degree in industrial engineering technology, information technology, or health at an accredited post-secondary institution. They hope this fund will provide deserving students with additional support while pursuing their careers. Rich and Patti always told their children that education is the most important gift you can give; this scholarship is their way to never stop giving.

The scholarship fund was also established in memory of their parents, Mathias and Margaret (Schares) Schmitz and Pasquale and Joan (Rohlik) Petitti.