



Edna Mae and Don Adams

Couple's Unique Gift Creates Impact Across Northeast Iowa

"I want to continue our dream of giving back to the area where we were born and raised, now and in the future."

Don Adams

A legacy is much more than being recognized for accomplishments or what you did during your lifetime. Edna Mae and Don Adams knew this and knew what kind of legacy they wanted to leave.

The couple established a legacy of good through a \$1.5 million estate gift to the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and one of its affiliates, the Buchanan County Community Foundation (BCCF). Though quiet philanthropists during their lives, Edna Mae and Don's impact will resound throughout their home community and northeast Iowa.

Edna Mae and Don grew up just miles apart in Quasqueton, Iowa. There they developed a love for community and each other. They were married in 1944, and after Don's service in the Army during WWII the couple settled in Salt Lake City, Utah. After Edna's passing in 2007, Don returned home to Independence where he passed in November 2014.

The couple's love for community led to their unique, multi-faceted gift, and while they had no children of their own, their passion for children can be seen through their giving choices. The \$1.5 million gift created new, and supported existing, endowment funds that positively impact the Adams' local community, and a larger region of northeast Iowa.

The funds established through their planned charitable giving include the Operation Threshold Endowment Fund to support the activities of the human service

agency serving Black Hawk, Buchanan and Grundy Counties; the Buccaneer Foundation Inc. Endowment Fund, to support activities of the East Buchanan Community School District; and the Edna Mae and Don Adams Scholarship Fund, which will provide scholarships to qualified graduates of Independence and East Buchanan High Schools.

Existing Community Foundation funds receiving contributions included the Mustang Foundation, Inc. Fund, which supports the activities of the Independence Community School District, Northeast Iowa Food Bank Endowment Fund, and Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois Endowment Fund.

An earlier \$500,000 gift from the couple was used to establish two funds through BCCF. The funds, deemed anonymous until after the couple's deaths, are now named the Edna Mae and Don Adams Designated Fund, which supports the Quasqueton Area Historical Society, Quasqueton Cemetery Association and Quasqueton Union Church, and the Edna Mae and Don Adams Community Impact Fund, which provides funds to the BCCF's discretionary grant process.



here for good.

