

# LAURA STOLZ MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

EST.  
2016

A FUND OF THE



an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa



**Laura Stolz** was born in 1952 and grew up in Lawler and New Hampton, Iowa. She graduated from high school in 1971 and a year later, married Dennis Stolz. Together, they had four children – Benjamin, Jeremy, Jessica (Brogan), and Jon.

For twenty-seven years, Laura worked for Sara Lee Bakery. Additionally, she had experience with Exceptional Persons, Inc. and AEA 267, Castle Hill School. At the age of forty-eight, Laura returned to college to fulfill her dream of teaching young children. As a non-traditional student, Laura worked hard to earn a 4.0 GPA. She graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 2005 with a B.A. in Elementary Education and a Special Education Minor.

Laura's love and compassion could be seen daily in the classroom. As a special education teacher at AEA 267 Castle Hill School in Waterloo, she was a positive role model for her students.

Sadly, Laura suddenly passed away in 2012 at age 59, leaving behind her family and her students.

After her death, Laura's son, Jeremy, was looking to keep his mother's legacy of education alive, so in 2016 he established the Laura Stolz Memorial Scholarship to honor her memory. "It started as an idea to honor my mother and grew into something I know she would be proud of," said Jeremy.

The annual scholarship award will assist students graduating from a Chickasaw County high school planning to pursue a degree special education.

"My mother was so fond of teaching, so proud of her students, and glad to have been given the opportunity to return to school later in life," said Jeremy. "Her enthusiasm for education spurred the idea to build a memorial scholarship fund that will allow others to pursue their passion for education."

During her life, Laura changed the lives of her students and their families for the better. Now her passion for students and education will live on for generations.