

DONOR STORIES

ROBERT & LOUISE VINCENT CONKLIN

“Louise Vincent Conklin and Robert Conklin Scholarship Fund”

On December 21, 1935, Robert Conklin was born to Elwood G. and Mary E. Niemeyer Conklin in Coronado, California. The couple's family also included 3 daughters, Ruth Ann, Sally May and Susan and 2 more sons, Norman and Donald.

Robert married Louise E. Vincent on December 27, 1969 in LaPorte City, Iowa.

Robert “Bob” worked in maintenance at the John Deere Foundry for 26 years and continued as a tour guide for Deere's for six years following his retirement.

Not only was Bob a loyal John Deere employee but he also served in the Iowa National Guard, retiring in 1987 after 20 years and was staff sergeant.

Bob was very involved with many organizations including a volunteer with the Foundry Fire Brigade and Haz Mat Team for 25 years. He was past master of Waterloo Lodge 105 AF&AM; past High Priest of Tabernacle Chapter 52; past Illustrious Master of Crescent Council 16; past commander of Ascalon Commandery 25; past Watchman of Shepherds of White Shrine 47; past Patron of Becker Chapter 499 Order of the Eastern Star; past District Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand High Chapter of Iowa District 3 of Tabernacle Chapter; was a board member of the Masonic Temple Corporation of Waterloo for 15 years; was a member of York Rite KYCH 52, and a member of El Kahir Shrine and a founding member of the Fire House Gang.

Robert and Louise established the Louise Vincent Conklin and Robert Conklin Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa. Income will be used to provide one-year scholarships made annually, as long as funds are available, to qualified graduates of Union High School in La Porte City, Iowa who will be attending an accredited university or junior college, with the ultimate goal of obtaining a teaching degree.