College of Education scholarship honors distinguished alumna

The Dixie O. Westergard Memorial Scholarship Endowment was recently established to provide financial assistance to students in the University’s College of Education and to honor distinguished alumna Dixie Westergard.

Dixie spent her early years in the Los Angeles and Bakersfield areas of California and her teen years in Elko and Lovelock. She graduated Phi Kappa Phi from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1956 with a degree in education. While at the University, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, participated in women’s athletics, was active in numerous student organizations and was a Top 10 senior woman awardee. Dixie combined her love of history, Nevada and writing to create and publish biographies and children’s books about Dr. Mary Fulstone, Dat-so-la-lee and her beloved Lake Tahoe. She was an active member of Nevada Women’s History group and was inducted into the Nevada Women’s History Roll of Honor in 2002. Her generosity and gift of teaching shined through all her life.

Dixie’s family members include many Wolf Pack graduates including her husband, Roland ’56 (civil engineering), who was instrumental in establishing this endowment in honor of his wife. The first Dixie O. Westergard Memorial Scholarship will be awarded in the 2011/2012 academic year.

Roland Westergard says of his late wife, “Dixie shared her enthusiasm for learning and teaching in everything she did. My family and I believe this scholarship honors her dedication, her skill, and her love in all facets of her life. “

For more information on supporting the College of Education, please contact Mitch Klaich, director of development, (775) 784-6914 or mklaich@unr.edu.