

ABOUT

Dr. Milton W. Roggenkamp and Ruth Imogene (Wenning) Roggenkamp



*The Roggenkamp's
Wedding Day, 1946*

Dr. Milton W. Roggenkamp and his late wife, Ruth Imogene (Wenning), had been philanthropists for a long time, making it a part of their plan as a couple to give. This continued right up until Ruth's passing in 2017 and Dr. Roggenkamp continues their plans.

In correspondence with Dr. Roggenkamp, he said, "I have a strong motivation to bring continuing educational awareness to CC [Crawford County] students as there was a dearth of such

encouragement during the depression in my school experience 1935-42. Even my parents did not broach the subject going to college, as they could not provide funds for it. The only person in Milltown who inquired about my future plans was Mr. Harry Lemmon, [the] Superintendent of the rock quarry in Milltown. He was a customer on my paper route. I told him there was no chance to go to college for me unless I could [gain] an appointment to one of the U.S. Military Academies and he understood. That was the end of that. Little did I know that in a couple of years I would be in the military, eventually becoming eligible for the G.I. Bill [through his service in the Navy as an Aviation radioman]!"

Inspired by his Agriculture teacher, Arthur Windell at Milltown High School, he set his mind to majoring in Chemistry and in addition taking Pre-Med courses required for admission to Medical School. He received his Bachelor's degree in Chemistry in 1948 and his MD in 1952.

Prior to the days of scholarships and financial aid, students had very little opportunity to attend college. Some had parents who could afford to send them, but that left a lot of intelligent and It was often only by very hard work and sheer determination that many were able to receive a degree. Even with the GI Bill, Dr. Roggenkamp had to drive an old vehicle back and forth from Milltown to U of L each day of classes. It wasn't easy for their new family; and Ruth made the daily sacrifices of being wife and mother so he could go. They acted as a unit right up until the time she passed away. They were devoted to each other for more than 70 years!

Today, most people take for granted opportunities that were dreams to others in America, and remain dreams for much of the world. Because of generous donors like the Roggenkamps, students in Crawford County have opportunities.

The Roggenkamps have established three scholarship funds: the 1) **Dr. Milton W. Roggenkamp & Mrs. Ruth I. Roggenkamp Scholarship**, and the 2) **Norman A. Roggenkamp Memorial Scholarship**, in honor of Dr. Roggenkamps brother Norman, a pilot, who did not return from the war. Both of these scholarships are renewable, which does a great deal to ease the financial burden to the receiving student. The 3) **Roggenkamp Gold Star Mother/Purple Heart Recipient Fund**, whose purpose is to award a scholarship to the Progeny of Gold Star Mother or Purple Heart Recipient.

They also established two grantmaking funds. One of Dr. Roggenkamp's most recent funds is the **Roggenkamp Family Endowment for S.T.E.M. Awareness**. This fund will assist Crawford County with exposure to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math fields through grants to the nonprofit sector.

The other is the **Milton and Ruth Roggenkamp Family Unrestricted Fund** was established. This fund took advantage of a Lilly Endowment Inc. matching challenge where the initial donation by Dr. Roggenkamp received a \$2 match for each \$1 donated. This fund will provide grants each year through the competitive grant cycle.

In addition to these gifts made in their lifetime, they have included the CFCC in their estate plan. Their legacy will live on forever and future generations of Crawford County residents will benefit from their generosity!

*Dr. Roggenkamp attended, and was honored, at the
Crawford County Veteran's Memorial Dedication in 2017.*



*The Roggenkamp's 70th
Wedding Anniversary, 2017*

