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Endowed scholarship commemorates Farrell, Ferris administrator

BIG RAPIDS – Mark Farrell, son of the late Ferris State University administrator, Dr. James V. Farrell, has established a scholarship endowment fund commemorating one of his father’s academic achievements.

The Jim Farrell Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund will award \$1,000 annually to candidates enrolled as full-time students in the second year of an associate degree program in the College of Arts and Sciences with the intention of pursuing a bachelor’s degree program in one of the University’s colleges.

Dr. Farrell served Ferris for 18 years in several key leadership positions, including his tenure as Vice President of Academic Affairs from 1971 to 1977. “My father established what was then called the ‘two-plus-two’ program at Ferris, so that students who came in with an associate degree could get a bachelor’s degree in two more years,” said Mark, in explaining the focus of the scholarship. Farrell also served as Dean of the School of General Education (now the College of Arts and Sciences) from 1958 to 1969 and Vice President of Student Affairs from 1969 to 1971.

“My father was important in the growth of Ferris State College. For me, the scholarship is a good way to remember him, and it’s a good tie to my time at Ferris, as well,” said Mark, a consultant for Ernst & Young in Midland, who graduated from Ferris with a degree in Applied Mathematics. His younger sister is a graduate of the College of Pharmacy, his mother, Mary, earned an associate degree as a legal assistant from Ferris, and his two older brothers and older sister also took classes at Ferris.

Candidates for the Farrell Scholarship must have earned a 3.0 or higher grade point average. The award may be applied to any costs related to attending the University. Selection of the recipient and management of the application process rests with the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

Further information or gift forms for the Jim Farrell Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund are available by contacting Debra Jacks, director of planned giving, at 231-591-3817 or jacksd@ferris.edu. Details about establishing scholarships or endowments may be obtained from the Advancement Office at 231-591-2391.