LEAVING A LEGACY THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

During the planning phase for his reunion, Dr. Wayne Smith, Class of 1958, was considering how best to celebrate this occasion and what he could do for Salisbury University. He and his wife, June Taylor Smith ’60, had been long-time supporters through annual gifts, but they wanted to do more. They decided that starting a scholarship to commemorate their 50 years since graduation would be something that would honor this occasion.

“Considering what STC (Salisbury Teachers College) did for me (and many of my classmates), I feel a real desire to give back. Consequently, I conceived the idea of a class scholarship as a gift to Salisbury University and to future students” said Dr. Smith.

During the anniversary and subsequent year, letters were written to classmates asking them to join in making gifts to the Class of 1958 Scholarship Fund. While some classmates have made gifts to the scholarship program, it was one classmate and his spouse in particular who helped finally establish the endowed scholarship. Gary White ’58 and his wife, Marilyn ’71, made a gift to push the total raised to over $10,000. “This scholarship reflects our interest in teacher education and preparedness. We are impressed by the advances made at SU, particularly the new Teacher Education and Technology Center,” said Marilyn. Gary considers attending STC as the turning point in his life: “it greatly helped to guide me to a successful career in education.”

The Class of 1958 Scholarship will be awarded this coming fall to a junior or senior majoring in teacher education who demonstrates financial need. Preference is given to a descendent of a member of the Class of 1958, but alumni legacies and other students will be considered. Smith added: “While the scholarship is small, we hope that it will help deserving students at Salisbury change their career arc and enable them to become productive educators and citizens.”

If you are interested in establishing an endowed scholarship fund, please contact: Jason Curtin ’98, director of development, at 410-543-6176 or jecurtin@salisbury.edu.