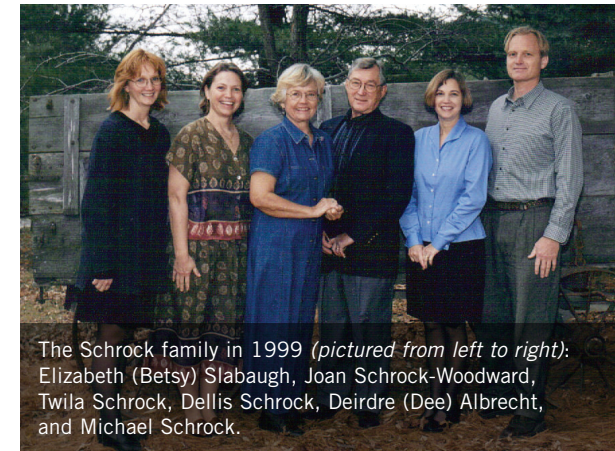


HERITAGE

Schrock family honors father and son after tragedy



The Schrock family in 1999 (pictured from left to right): Elizabeth (Betsy) Slabaugh, Joan Schrock-Woodward, Twila Schrock, Dellis Schrock, Deirdre (Dee) Albrecht, and Michael Schrock.

Twila Schrock established the Dellis and Michael Schrock Scholarship Fund in 2012 in tribute to her husband, Dellis, and their son, Michael.

Dellis had a long and rewarding career in education. In 2008, he died in his sleep after an active week of volunteer work with Presbyterian Disaster Service in Houma, Louisiana, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Two days later, a truck struck and killed Michael, who was in Fargo, North Dakota, helping with preparations for his father's funeral.

Michael earned a bachelor's degree in education from Goshen College in 1976, and later earned a bachelor of architecture from North Dakota University in Fargo.

He married Erin Geiser in 1979 and had two sons, who also graduated from Goshen College: Atlee in 2007 and Haven in 2012.

"Michael was a fun-loving, friendly and impulsive guy," Twila said. "Goshen put up with some of the pranks he and his friends took part in."

Michael practiced architecture for 27 years and was principal of Lasher-Schrock & Associates Inc. in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He designed the first green-certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) school, Twin Lakes Elementary School.

"Our children have chosen careers that have not only benefited themselves," Twila said, "but have made a difference in the world as well."

Twila and Dellis met in 1951 at Hesston College in Kansas, where they co-edited the college yearbook. The two had a lot in common: they grew up on farms in the Midwest, held similar religious beliefs and were interested in education. Two years later, in 1953, they married.

"I hope this scholarship will help students who need financial aid, but also those who show leadership in their field of choice. I hope that they will, in turn, make the world a better and more peaceful place."

Our students are saying...

"Goshen has given me a global perspective through the diversity of the school. I have experienced people making themselves vulnerable to one another, telling each other about their life stories and struggles. I want to get to know as many people as possible and listen to their stories so I can do something for them."



– **Danny Klink**,
a junior social work major from
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

Right time for a gift annuity?



If you were able to attend the Heritage Circle reception before the Goshen College choirs' Earthtones concert on April 11, you heard me share briefly about gift annuities. Since interest rates are at historic lows, the yield on some of your investments or deposit accounts may be rather modest. A gift annuity could likely increase your income and make a significant, deferred gift to Goshen College. With lower interest rates, your charitable deduction is somewhat lower, but the silver lining is that an historically low charitable deduction means a larger portion of your income stream would be tax-free.

Maybe you aren't yet retired and you're at peak earning years. Have you considered a deferred gift annuity? As an example,

a 60-year-old couple could place a gift of \$50,000 into a gift annuity agreement with Goshen College and defer quarterly payments until 2024, when they turn 70. Their charitable deduction this year would be \$13,150 and starting in the fall of 2024, they would receive \$750 a quarter (\$3,000/year) for the rest of their lives. Over half of their annual payments would be tax-free to them. This could be another way for the couple to make a significant deferred gift to Goshen College in addition to perhaps leaving a portion of their assets to GC via their wills or naming the college as a beneficiary on a retirement plan.

Questions on how you might use a planned or deferred gift to benefit Goshen College? Please contact me at rogeran@goshen.edu or call me at (574) 535-7797, toll-free 1-800-348-7422.

– **Roger A. Nafziger**, *Director of Gift Planning*

Scholarship honors social worker who took risks, built community

For more than 50 years, Bob Wert devoted his social work career to developing relationships with people in need and building communities through simple, mentoring compassion.

The Robert Wert Scholarship Fund was established after his death in April of 2012. Though Bob never studied or taught at Goshen College, his connections to the college led his wife and two sons, Don Carufel-Wert and Dave Hockman-Wert, to establish the scholarship for social work majors in his honor.

Bob and Esther were married in 1961 after their sophomore year at Eastern Mennonite College, now Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

In 1966, during the height of the Civil Rights Movement, Bob and Esther moved to Washington, D.C. to serve as unit leaders with Mennonite Voluntary Service. Their assignment was to develop a community center for youth and families in the inner city.

“...he was a pretty ordinary guy. You can just be a good, ordinary person who lives by your values and takes a few risks now and then.”

“My father loved being with people,” said Dave, Bob and Esther’s second son. “Talking with them, learning from them, helping them with their difficulties, experiencing their gifts in music or sports or drama.”

Bob and Esther worked to develop a strong sense of community among local residents. Along with other service workers, Bob and Esther organized tutoring, cooking classes, and neighborhood fairs. They welcomed kids to the after school drop-in center and hosted families on trips to rural Pennsylvania.

“I think both of us learned early on that, to understand somebody, you really need to get to know them,” said Esther.

After completing the voluntary service term, Bob pursued his master’s degree in social work (MSW) from Howard University, an historically black university in Washington, D.C.

“As a minority at Howard, Bob hoped he could better understand the feelings and experience of a person of different race or culture,” said Esther. “He wanted to continue to be involved in the movement toward black consciousness and to work at issues of racial tolerance and equality.”

A few years after Bob obtained his MSW, the family moved to North Newton, Kansas, in 1973. While there, Bob taught social work classes at Bethel College. The contrast between city life and



wide-open prairies gave the family a chance to reconnect with their rural Mennonite roots.

As they reflected on their lives as service workers, Bob and Esther decided to develop an intentional community in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, in 1975, where Bob found work counseling recovering addicts at the Maryland state prison.

Along with a group of other families, they shared resources and lived in Christian fellowship for three years.

“Their decision to join an intentional community during the ‘back to the land’ times in the 1970s forever imprinted on me the value of strong communities,” said Dave. “I grew up immersed in my parents’ values of church, peacemaking and caring for those in need.”

In the summer of 1978, the Werts moved to Goshen, where Bob took a job as an addictions counselor at Oaklawn Psychiatric Center. He also worked with child and adolescent services, conducted groups of adolescents at local schools and worked with residential and inpatient services.

“He saw something good in each person,” said Esther. “He was understanding and calm. He never seemed to get flustered or excited—he’d take everything in stride. When he retired, we read a number of letters that people had written to thank him.”

Over the years, Bob became involved with and supportive of the Goshen College community through attending campus events and working alongside students at Oaklawn.

“My dad enjoyed good music, drama events and watching a GC basketball game,” said Dave. “In other words, he was a pretty ordinary guy. You can just be a good, ordinary person who lives by your values and takes a few risks now and then.”

– By Liz Core ’14

If you’d like to contribute to any scholarship funds mentioned in this newsletter, you can send your gift to Goshen College with a note regarding the scholarship you’d like to apply it toward. Visit www.goshen.edu/give for more information or to give online.

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“Del and I lived a happy, rewarding life with our family for 54 years,” Twila said.

Dellis finished his degree in English education at Goshen College, where he graduated in 1956. He was the first of many Schrock to do so. All four of Dellis and Twila’s children graduated from Goshen College: Michael in 1976, Deirdre in 1980, Joan in 1982, and Elizabeth in 1985. At last count, 10 of their 11 grandchildren have attended or plan to attend Goshen College.

Dellis’ commitment to a strong work ethic continued throughout his life. He held leadership positions in the church, school, city and state.

“I never met a harder worker than Del,” Twila said. “He thrived on doing two jobs at the same time. Once I pointed out that he held five chair positions simultaneously: mayor of Casselton, church council chair, head of the English department at South High, president of the North Dakota Council of Teachers of English and president of Phi Delta Kappa.”

Dellis taught English and creative writing at secondary schools in Fargo, North Dakota, for 40 years. He received a master’s degree in English from North Dakota University in 1962 and a doctorate in education from the University of Illinois in 1968.

Twila also pursued a career in education. She taught for two years and then spent 24 years as a librarian and media specialist in the Fargo public school system. Now retired, Twila says she enjoys keeping busy at her home in North Newton, Kansas, and spending summers at her lake cottage in Minnesota.

Recipients of the Schrock Scholarship must declare their intent to pursue a career in elementary or secondary education, in honor of Dellis, or in art or architecture, as Michael did.

“I hope this scholarship will help students who need financial aid, but also those who show leadership in their field of choice,” said Twila. “I hope that they will, in turn, make the world a better and more peaceful place.”

– By Kate Yoder ’15

HERITAGE

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Heritage Newsletter, published several times yearly, is a service for friends of Goshen College on developments in planned giving and estate planning. Each issue also focuses on a small number of participants in the college’s special and deferred gifts program. Information in *Heritage Newsletter* should not be considered an interpretation of the law or of federal tax rules and regulations. Your own lawyer, bank trust officer or financial adviser can help you select the most advantageous way to give or bequeath funds or property to Goshen College.

THEN & NOW



Greening our energy

◀ A lot has changed in how we power our facilities at Goshen College. A century ago, we used coal delivered by train, and men like “Mr. Plank” (*left*) fed the furnace on a continuous basis.

(Photo provided by the Goshen College Maple Leaf, 1914)



◀ In 2013, Goshen College began voluntarily purchasing 100 percent of electricity from renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power. Solar power heats the showers in the Rec-Fitness Center, and geothermal heat pumps (*left*) use warmer underground temperatures to boost efficiency and reduce the operational costs of heating and cooling systems. These are just a few of the many sustainable initiatives that are making Goshen a greener place.

(Photo by Alex Pletcher)

Find out more at goshen.edu/sustainability