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(Neb.)-Former CSC Student Leaves Scholarship Gift For Music Department



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 09/06/2013 09:30 AM

(Chadron)-Jerry Tallmon loved to sing and he loved his years in the Chadron State College music program. Both of these passions will benefit from a \$14,463 life insurance gift from Tallmon, who died in 2012. The gift will be used for music scholarships for CSC students.

Tallmon, a native of Mitchell, was a member of the CSC Eaglares vocal performing group and greatly admired Dr. Al Blinde, his music professor and mentor.

He was involved in Blue Key and many other campus activities. Jerry and Barbara were married between his junior and senior year at CSC.

A 1965 CSC graduate, Jerry was hired to teach vocal and instrumental music at Crawford beginning in the second semester of his senior year at CSC. He once led his marching band by the door of their home to the delight of their first daughter, Brenda.

In 1967, he and his wife Barbara moved to Kimball where Jerry taught vocal music in the high school.

From the fall of 1970 through the spring of 1972 the Tallmons lived in Grand Island where Jerry taught vocal music at Grand Island Senior High.

In the summer of 1972 he entered the jewelry business with his father and brother but he kept singing and teaching others to sing by serving as a music clinician at various schools.

Jerry helped charter the Sugar Valley Singers Barbershop Chorus located in the Scottsbluff/Gering area. He served as the original director for many years. He also sang baritone for several different barbershop quartets.

Jerry served as an assistant director of the Dorothy Bronson Singers. A highlight of this group was being invited to perform in Washington D.C. in 1976.

He had many other interests such as Rotary, church, youth fishing instructor and serving as a Western Nebraska Community College Foundation board member.

“He didn’t let any dust settle on his shoes” said Barbara.

They have two daughters, Brenda and Sheila. Brenda lives in Estes Park, Colo. with her husband, Kevin, and young son, Reis. She is a horsemanship safety clinician and riding instructor. Sheila lives in the Seattle area and is director of Camp Nor’wester in the San Juan Islands.

by Tena L. Cook, Interim Marketing Coordinator