

VIRGINIA (McCONNELL) & DEVEREAUX “DAVE” COTTER FUND



The Cotter Family is pictured at Fr. John Cotter's ordination in 1980. From left: Marg Crawford '70, Linda & Jim Cotter '67, Therese Cotter '76, Pete Cotter '75, Dave Cotter, Fr. John Cotter '65, Virginia (McConnell) Cotter '34, Fr. Ray Cotter '69, Mary & Tim Cotter '68, and Karen Lamb '80.

Dave Cotter and Virginia McConnell (SHA '34) grew up on their respective family farms in Leaton and Vernon Township. They officially met and began dating in 1940. They were married at St. Henry's Church in 1946 after Dave returned home from serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

The couple raised their eight children at the McCarthy homestead on Isabella Road which belonged to Dave's maternal grandparents, Timothy and Mary (Devereaux) McCarthy. They were committed to making sure that Sacred Heart Academy

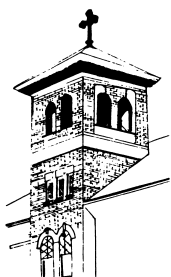
was an integral part of their children's lives just as it had been for both of them. Their children attended SHA from 1954 until 1980. Dave played an active role in the athletic association and Virginia was a member of the first Sacred Heart Church parish council and also a founding member of the SHA Foundation when it was created in 1976. She tirelessly used her keen accounting skills as Foundation treasurer for many years. She and the other founding members were devoted to preserving and protecting the future of the Academy for generations to come.

Virginia often touted the accomplishments and successes of SHA alums and would repeat compliments given by college professors regarding how well the Academy prepared their students for college. She knew that strong academic rigor combined with a firm foundation of faith was a winning combination.

In the commemorative book published in 1989 on the 100th anniversary of the founding of Sacred Heart Academy, Virginia wrote on behalf of the Class of 1934, *"We remember fondly that so much was given to us of the good things. . . mainly our religious training but also educational – these have stood the test of time"*.

The eight Cotter siblings created the **Virginia (McConnell) & Devereaux “Dave” Cotter Fund** in 2021 as a tribute to their parents, honoring their parent's long-time commitment to Catholic education.

Here's to the good things and here's to you Academy, we'll always be for you!



For further information about the Virginia (McConnell) & Devereaux “Dave” Cotter Fund or other Named Funds, contact the SHA Foundation at SHAFoundation@sha.net

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