

DR. LEONARD E. & LOUISE A. PLACHTA SCHOLARSHIP



Dr. Leonard E. and Louise A. Plachta,
pictured in 2007

Dr. Leonard E. and Louise A. Plachta, native Detroiters, moved to Alma in 1970 and to Mount Pleasant in 1978. They were both graduates of the University of Detroit (now called the University of Detroit Mercy), he with a B.S. in Accounting and an M.B.A. as well. Mrs. Plachta received her Bachelor's degree in Sociology in 1972 (17 years after she began her college career!).

Dr. Plachta was awarded a Ph.D. from MSU in 1964; Mrs. Plachta a Master's in English from CMU in 1991.

Both Plachtas were involved in education in one way or another for most of their lives. Their daughters are both graduates of Sacred Heart Academy and are in the medical field. Linda, Doctor of Physical Therapy, graduated with the first Physical Therapy class at CMU; and received her DPT is from Boston University. She is employed as a physical therapist and is also an adjunct professor of PT at CMU.

Laura received her medical degree from MSU

and performed her pediatric training at Stanford University. She is in private practice in Dublin, Ohio, and teaches at Ohio State University.

Dr. Plachta was president of CMU from January 1992 until August 2000. While president of CMU, he was a board member of Central Michigan Community Hospital (later named McLaren—Central Michigan) and was involved with other professional organizations as well. He died in January 2008. When Dr. Plachta retired from CMU, the board of trustees designated four, full-ride Centralis Scholarships in his name and also dedicated the auditorium in Warriner Hall in honor of him and Louise.

Mrs. Plachta was awarded an honorary doctorate of public service from CMU in 2008. She was a lector at Sacred Heart Church and a volunteer with many community organizations, including Friends of Isabella Seniors (board member), Art Reach (docent), McLaren Hospital reception desk, board member of the Isabella County Pardee Cancer Treatment Foundation, and the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation. She also wrote a weekly column for the local Morning Sun newspaper.

When asked what her hobbies were, she replied, "I guess you might say that volunteering is my hobby." She also attended plays, lectures, music performances, and athletic events at Central Michigan University, and confessed to reading an eclectic variety of subjects and authors until her passing in February 2018.

The Plachta's scholarship was established to encourage and help qualified Academy students to be passionate about learning and to reach their ultimate goals — whether in the fields of medicine, the building/construction trades, academia, or whatever and wherever their interests and passions lie.



For further information about the **Dr. Leonard E. and Louise A. Plachta Endowed Scholarship** or other Named Funds, contact the SHA Foundation at SHAFoundation@sha.net

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