ALICE & ROGER GOENNER FUND



Alice & Roger Goenner Pictured in 2011

Married in 1947 in Waite Park, Minnesota, Roger and Alice (Johnson) Goenner created a life dedicated to education, faith, and family. They moved to Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in 1958, where they raised six children, held teaching careers which impacted thousands of youth, and volunteered in their community. Accomplished in countless ways, Alice and Roger agreed their greatest achievement was their children. Married for over 63 years, they were devoted to their family and the activities of their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Their Catholic faith guided them through opportunities and

challenges in life. Roger and Alice embraced their Catholic faith, graduating all six children from Sacred Heart Academy: Marilyn (Hicks) '66, Kathryn (Miller) '69, Roger '73, Carol (Gerbensky) '77, Patty (Bednarz) '78, and Jim '87.

Roger was born in St. Cloud, Minnesota and joined the U.S. Army after his high school graduation. He served as a combat engineer during World War II, from 1943 to 1946. He married Alice the same year he received his bachelor's degree from St. Cloud State. He continued his studies, achieving his Master's degree form Northern Colorado University and his Doctorate from the University of Wyoming. He moved the family to Michigan in 1958 where he worked as a professor in school administration at Central Michigan University until his retirement in 1988. Roger was elected to the Michigan Education Hall of Fame. He traveled all 50 states in his lifetime, and enjoyed the great outdoors. Roger died in 2011 at the age of 86, leaving a legacy of volunteerism and selfless service to organizations such as Sacred Heart Parish, the Rotary Club and Boy Scouts of America.

Alice was born in St. Augusta, Minnesota, graduated from St. Cloud State, then received her Master's degree from the University of Wyoming. When the family moved to Michigan, she taught in the Mt. Pleasant Public School system from 1959 until her retirement in 1988. Alice was a member of the General Federation of Women's Club, Sacred Heart Parish, and was a founding member of the Sacred Heart Academy Foundation in 1976. She also volunteered at the local hospital, and enjoyed golf, bridge, and spending time with her grandchildren. Alice lived to be 92 years young, passing just shy of her 93rd birthday in 2019.

The Goenner Family created the Alice & Roger Goenner Fund in 2019 as a tribute to their parents, honoring their devotion to God, commitment to Catholic education, and their mom's dedication to the SHA Foundation.



For further information about the Alice & Roger Goenner Fund or other Named Funds, contact the SHA Foundation at SHAfoundation@sha.net

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