

LAPHAM FAMILY FUND Est. 2019



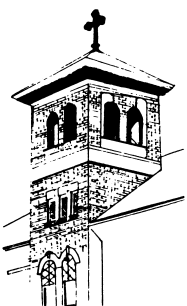
The Lapham Family story is a classic American success story. Each of the 10 children born in central Michigan to parents of limited education and financial means grew to success in their chosen field(s). At the beginning of The Great Depression, the family moved to Mt. Pleasant on West Broadway Street, which is now Nelson Park. The Laphams were committed to their Catholic faith and their large family, sending the children to Sacred Heart Academy even though paying the parochial school cost was a challenge. Alger Lapham was a hard-working laborer who was employed at the local tire shop. Ruth Lapham ran the household and fostered a sense of responsibility and motivation in each child. In later years, she worked at her

sons' variety store in Midland.

From the early ages of five years old, the children in the family worked odd jobs to help with family income. After attending Sacred Heart Academy, each of the Lapham children achieved success in their own right:

- **Paul** attended the University of Detroit and owned a surveying and land engineering business in the central Michigan area.
- **Darcy** studied at Ferris State University, then lived and worked in Florida and California before returning to Michigan to start several businesses with his brother David: a carpet cleaning business, a variety store and a real estate business.
- **Jean Cauwenbergh** graduated from Nazareth College in Kalamazoo with a nursing degree and worked as an RN at St. Mary's Indian Village in Alaska, where she sponsored two Indian girls to attend Nazareth College and return to their villages as RNs.
- **Larry** served in the U.S. Navy in Japan. He was a social worker in New York City before starting a multi-faceted national search team in New York that his son continues to operate.
- **Sandra Lapham** was a special needs teacher in Washington D.C. who adopted three children to give them a better life.
- **Virginia Krabbenhoft** established an arts and crafts boutique in Colorado Springs, creating artistic pieces from the charred wood of the Haymen Fire which destroyed she and her husband's Dream Forest.
- **Clair** owns and operates Lapham Greenhouses in central Michigan.
- **Lorena Szumski** lived and worked in Chicago, Illinois.
- **Rita Poston** became a teacher and lives in Washington, D.C.
- **David** partnered with his brother Darcy in several businesses, including Lapham's Yard & Garden Center, Lapham's Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning and a real estate business in central Michigan.

The Lapham Family Fund was established in 2019 by Darcy Lapham in honor of his parents and siblings. The purpose of the fund is to promote the gift of a Catholic education by providing tuition assistance to families of Sacred Heart Academy.



For further information about the **Lapham Family Scholarship Fund** or other Named Funds, contact the SHA Foundation at SHAFoundation@sha.net

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