

Service inspires lasting tribute

Two careers spent in service have inspired a gift that will have a lasting impact on Hope students for generations to come.

The Revs. John Buteyn Sr. '36 and John (Jack) Buteyn Jr. '66 have spent a combined 90 years in service to the Reformed Church in America (RCA). John has been in ministry for 60 years, and Jack for 30. To help commemorate the individual and combined milestones, the Reformed Church in Plano, Texas, which Jack founded and both he and his father serve, established the "Buteyn Family Scholarship Fund" at Hope in their honor.

The tribute, announced following the church's 11 a.m. service on Sunday, Nov. 12, was completely unexpected.

"It was really a surprise to both of us," Jack said. "There were little hints that something might be done, but I thought maybe we'd have coffee and crumpets and that'd be it."

Both feel that the congregation couldn't have picked a better way of honoring them.

"We were just overwhelmed," Jack said. "It was just a great recognition."

"This kind of scholarship is absolutely wonderful," John said. "Often they send you off on a nice trip or something, but that doesn't compare to what they've done—it's something that's going to last a long time, which really means a lot."

A native of Wisconsin, John wasn't the first generation in his family to set foot on the Hope campus when he arrived in the early '30s. His father Perry had attended the Academy in his own youth.

From Hope, John went on to Western Theological Seminary, graduating in 1939. His first pastorate was at Bethel Reformed Church in Harvey, Ill., a church that he had helped organize while he was still in seminary. Next he went to First Reformed Church of Rochester, N.Y.

In 1956 he took a staff position in world missions with the RCA. He successively served as western field secretary; secretary of promotion; area secretary for the Middle East, India and Africa; and secretary for World Ministries of the General Program Council. "Places like Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman were almost like a second home to me because I was there once or twice every year," John said.

After retiring in 1982 he held a series of interim pastorates before joining Jack in Texas.

Jack also graduated from Western Theological Seminary after completing his degree from Hope. He served first at Immanuel Reformed in Lansing, Mich., and next in Clymer, N.Y.

He went to Plano, a Dallas suburb, in 1978, challenged to establish a new church

in a rapidly-growing area in which the RCA was relatively unknown. And he's loved it.

"It's been very positive to watch the Reformed Church grow down there," Jack said. "It's been a real adventure, and we've had a wonderful time."

"It's been a very gracious congregation," he said. "From the beginning they've been very kind and very positive. It's just been a wonderful place to serve. I always thought that's the way the church could be—very accepting and non-judgmental."

Jack and his family had been in Plano for more than a decade when his father and mother Margaret joined them to, as John put it, do "what we could to help Jack along."

John's contributions have included establishing a "Job-Net" program as a networking resource for the unemployed in the Plano/North Dallas area. In its decade-plus of operation, "Job-Net" has worked with more than 1,000 people.

Jack has also appreciated his dad's work as a mentor—not only to him, but to others in the congregation. "It's been a lot of fun to work with my dad," he said.

"Our church was so young when he came that he was kind of like the resident grandpa," Jack said. "He filled a very neat role in the church."

The Buteyn family's multi-generational impact is continuing in new ways as well. Jack's son John graduated from Princeton Seminary in May and has joined the church—where he had earlier held an internship—as minister of outreach and assimilation.

Despite careers that have taken them across the country and the world, John and



Their combined 90 years in service to the Reformed Church in America prompted the Reformed Church in Plano, Texas, to endow a scholarship at Hope in honor of the Revs. John Buteyn Sr. '36 and John (Jack) Buteyn Jr. '66.

Jack have each stayed active in the life of the college (John's daughter and Jack's sister, Carol (Buteyn) Berberian, is also a Hope graduate: Class of '62). John delivered the college's Baccalaureate sermon in 1972, the same year that Hope awarded him an honorary degree for his service to the denomination. Jack was a member of the college's Board of Trustees from 1985 to 1993.

They have also made it back to campus for class reunions, most recently in May, for the 65-year and 35-year reunions of their classes of '36 and '66 respectively. John was

on the planning committee for this year's 65-year reunion.

Speaking during the May visit, Jack noted, "It just is great to see the college."

"All of us remember different eras in the college's life, and just to see the way they've handled things—like the new facilities—it really is encouraging," he said.

Reflecting further on the scholarship he noted, "They couldn't have done anything more exciting to me because it contributes to an institution that I've loved for a long time, and in a way that neither my dad nor I could do personally." ✍

Gifts personal and crucial

Endowed scholarships at Hope are inspired in many ways and take many forms, but they have one thing in common. Their importance cannot be overestimated.

During the 2000-01 school year, more than 1,100 Hope students received need-based scholarships, many of which were named. For most of those students, the aid makes the difference between being able to attend Hope—or not.

Since the official start of the *Legacies: A Vision of Hope* campaign, more than 70 endowed scholarship funds have been created. Sources have ranged from individuals, families or groups seeking to honor someone, as in the case of the Buteyns; to corporations seeking to support needy Hope students interested in select fields; to bequests from individuals who remembered the college in their estate plans.

Some examples:

The Van Zyl Scholarship. Awarded to chemistry students with need, the scholarship was established by a foundation to honor Dr. Gerrit Van Zyl '18, who taught chemistry at Hope from 1923 to 1964. Memorial gifts have been added to the scholarship following the death of his son, Gyte Van Zyl '52, on March 13, 2001.

Miracle on 8th Street. Established by parents of members of the women's basketball team that won the NCAA Division III national championship in 1990. Awards are given to students who demonstrate leadership skills and a competitive spirit.

Marion Nyboer Scholarship. Created by Dr. Andrew Nyboer '39 to honor his wife of 55 years.

Sikkel Scholarship. Created through the estate of Antoinette Sikkel '50 for students with financial need pursuing careers in music.

Endowed scholarships may be created with a financial commitment of any

amount, and may be added to over time. Once the market value reaches \$10,000, the college begins to award income as scholarships to one or more students. The scholarship fund is considered endowed when it reaches \$25,000.

LEGACIES

A VISION  OF HOPE

Legacies: A Vision of Hope is an \$85 million fund-raising effort that has three primary components: renovating and expanding the science center, increasing the endowment, and addressing short-term and long-term facility and space needs.

For more information, please visit the college on-line at www.hope.edu or call (616) 395-7783. ✍