

# Harrison County Community Foundation

## Shireman Family Scholarship Fund

The Shireman Family Scholarship Fund was established in 2007 to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of James L. Shireman, Inc. The fund provides four scholarships annually which are awarded to a graduating senior at each Harrison County high school. Jim Shireman started the company in June, 1957. It continues to be a family-run business. In fact, all five children in the family have worked for the company at one time or another. Two sons, Mark and Joe, are the President and Chief Operating Officer, respectively. "My dad was very interested in vocations and realized the importance of having and maintaining skilled people in the workforce," stated Mark. For that reason, the Shireman Family Scholarships are awarded to outstanding students who have attended Prosser School of Technology and who will pursue post-secondary education.

Beyond business, however, Jim and Mary Shireman understood the value and importance of playing a positive role in their community. Both were actively involved with civic groups. Jim was a World War II Marine Veteran and served as the County Republican Party Chairman from 1964-1974. He served as a board member for the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce, Southern Indiana Health Systems Agency, Southern Indiana Mental Health Association, and Prosser School of Technology. Jim was an advisor to former Indiana Governors, Ed Whitecomb, Otis Bowen, M. D., and Robert Orr. He received the "Friend of Leadership Award" in 2006 after creating an endowment with the Community Foundation to support Leadership Harrison County perpetually. Jim and Mary were members of the Corydon United Methodist Church where Mary was a volunteer for many of the church activities. Mary was the "inspirer" and Jim was the "doer". Together they worked to make Harrison County better one project at a time. Their daughter, Becky Eckart, says that "It is the hope of our family that each scholarship recipient will make a positive impact in Harrison County." To Jim and Mary's family, that would be a legacy their parents would have loved.

Although James L. Shireman is a construction management firm, students do not have to be studying or planning a career in that field to be eligible. Previous recipients of the Shireman Family Scholarship Fund include students who have studied in a variety of fields including pre-nursing/health careers, automotive technology, computer technology, and aviation flight technology.

Today, Jim and Mary's family are following in the footsteps of their parents. The James L. Shireman family was the recipient of the Harrison County Chamber of Commerce 2006 Award for Community Service. Pam Bennett Martin, 2006 Chamber of Commerce Board President, said, "The family wants to and has made a difference in our community by their work, community involvement, and financial commitment. This scholarship fund is one more way this family is making a difference in Harrison County."



Clockwise from top left: Corydon High School, Lanesville High School, South Central High School, and North Harrison Elementary School



Constructed by James L. Shireman, Inc

