

PRESS RELEASE

LINDA LEE RUBY SCHOLARSHIP FUND ESTABLISHED

The Kent Community Foundation and the Estate of Linda Lee Ruby are pleased to announce that the Linda Lee Ruby Scholarship Fund has been established. An annual scholarship will be awarded to students from the Kent School District who are in good academic standing, who are in financial need, and who have demonstrated the intention of pursuing a career in public school education. The first award will be made in June 2003.

"We are thrilled that we are able to make Linda's wish a reality on the first anniversary of her death," said Linda's brother, Earle Ruby of Landisville, PA. "Linda was a loving caring person in many ways, but her special gift was for educating children. She wanted to help others who will love teaching and helping children. Linda worked hard and gave up a great deal to obtain her education and wanted to find potential educators who are willing to do the same."

"Beginning with her dream to become a teacher, Linda was a committed, creative, and wise teacher of her students and colleagues", said Carol Harding of Vilas, NC, Linda's closest childhood friend and member of the scholarship committee. "She exemplified the best in education, working closely with children and their families and never faltering in her vision of what needed to be done. As a counselor, she worked closely with children, helping them address their problems and develop their strengths. In addition to all the good memories and the many wonderful marks she has left on the lives of everyone who knew her, the Linda Ruby Scholarship is her ongoing legacy. Her love of teaching will continue to live through her influence on future educators and the lives of the children and families they touch."

Ms. Ruby touched many children's lives during her long career as a teacher and school counselor. She graduated from the School of Education of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and taught in inner city and suburban schools in Delaware. From 1971-73 she volunteered in the Peace Corps in South Korea as an English language teacher. She taught elementary school in the Snoqualmie School District from 1973-81, and completed a Masters Degree in Counseling at Seattle University in 1984. Ms. Ruby was an elementary school counselor in the Kent School District from 1984 - 2001, working with students on issues involving divorce, anger management, social skills development and chemical dependency.

In her spare time, she loved gardening at her home on Green Lake, visits with her family in Pennsylvania, traveling, and hiking.

Applications for the Linda Lee Ruby Scholarship will be available from counselors at all the high schools in the Kent School District starting in January 2003. A committee of three educators named by Ms. Ruby will screen the applications and select the winner(s).

Contributions to the Linda Ruby Scholarship fund may be sent to the Kent Community Foundation, 524 West Meeker, Kent WA 98032.

For additional information, please contact Judy O'Neal, a fellow counselor and the Kent School District representative on the scholarship committee. She can be reached at (253) 373-2764 or jerryoneal@attbi.com