

## Nightingale Family Scholarship

Amanda Nightingale was born March 1, 1919 and lived her entire life in Harvey County, Kansas. Amanda grew up at the Alta Mill and shared her childhood with cousins, siblings and friends. Her father and his two brothers owned and operated the Alta Mill along the Little Arkansas River north and west of Halstead. She frequently commented that it was an ideal childhood spent playing with her siblings, many cousins and friends who would stop by to have their wheat ground into flour. She attended Halstead High School, graduating in 1937. Amanda had to live with and work for various people in Halstead while attending high school because it was too far to drive on a daily basis.

Amanda had a desire to become an interior designer, but circumstances and resources did not allow that dream to become reality, at least in the traditional sense. Amanda learned to cook, garden and quilt during her early years and in later years she shared those talents with many. She organized and was a part of the '76 Quilters at Halstead First Mennonite Church. This group donated a quilt almost every year to the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale quilt auction, held in Hutchinson, KS, where their quilts often received the highest bid. She shared her garden produce, her gifts of hospitality and her compassion with the elderly.

Along with her husband John, Amanda raised four sons; Conrad, Tim, Bruce and James. All four were raised on the family farm near the Harvey County West Park. Conrad was a Division I athlete and eventually was a steeple chase competitor at the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City. Tim owned and operated Conco Construction company in Wichita. Bruce used his degree in social work while finishing concrete in the Lawrence area. James was an architect and partner in Alloy Architecture in Wichita and practiced for over 35 years. James continues the farming tradition. In 2018, two months following Amanda's death, the farm was named a Century Family Farm.

John and Amanda raised their sons to appreciate hard work and to use their gifts for the good of others. Both were generous givers not only of their material resources, but their time, their prayers and their lives. John was a welder at Hesston Corporation while also farming. He passed away in 1996. Amanda asked her sons to make available some of their modest estate to establish a scholarship in their family's honor.

