

Jim and Betty Sterling Scholarship

Established in 1999 by Jim & Sandra Sterling

Many years ago, my parents put me through college at Texas Maritime Academy. I was very fortunate not to have to work or take out a student loan to complete my education. Years later, I thought it would be neat to give a scholarship to my alma mater in their honor, to help some young students get through school. At this time, I was also putting my two children through Texas A&M, so I know how expensive this project can be. The amount distributed from this scholarship will not take care of all the expenses, but every little bit does help. We have added to this scholarship this year, and now will be able to add to it every year.

My wife and I really enjoy the Scholarship Reception held each fall, so that we may meet our students, and put a face to a name. Most of them, we will never see again, but that one night of visiting with them is a wonderful idea, please keep this up! We also enjoy receiving the thank you notes and photos of our students. We save them all!

During WWII, my Mom went to the John Sealy School of Nursing (now I think it is called UTMB), and later she created their first Endowed Scholarship. It has grown in corpus over the years, and now funds about three or four scholarships. Every year, I get some nice letters from the recipients. She passed away seven years ago, and every time I receive one of these letters, it puts a smile on my face, and she would be very pleased to know that this legacy will live on for many years.

To "our" students: We are so glad that we could help you in a small way. We hope you have a successful career in the Maritime industry, and that someday, you too may be able to fund a scholarship to help out the students that come after you. Good luck!

Gig 'Em!

James B. Sterling, III '71
Commander, United States Navy (Ret)