

Brenda, Glenn Dresner '69 and Dustin Dresner '01 Endowed Marine Transportation Scholarship

Established in 2016 by Brenda and Glenn Dresner '69

It was during the Spring of 2016 that we had a discussion on where our lives would be today, had I not graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and Brenda not graduated with her degree in education from Sam Houston State University. We realized that we would not have met and married each other in June 1976, we would not have had our two wonderful children, Dustin '01 and Lindsey '06, and we would not have gotten good jobs with a company and school district that provided a great retirement for each of us after 35 years of service.

This started us to thinking about how we could possibly provide academic endowed scholarships so other students could enjoy obtaining their goal of a degree from Texas A&M at Galveston as well as Texas A&M in College Station. We thought about doing two scholarships in the areas that meant so much for our two children. We contacted the Texas A&M Foundation in College Station to discuss the ideas we had for the scholarships and, as the story goes, "the rest is history". Our son, Dustin Dresner '01, had graduated with a degree in Marine Transpiration from TAMUG, so it was logical to establish a scholarship in this area of study because it has provided him the opportunity to move up in the Merchant Marine ranks until he became a licensed Captain. At the same time, we also wanted to do a scholarship for our daughter, Lindsey Dresner-Duke '06, who was very active in the Texas Aggie Dance Team at College Station. The Foundation introduced us to their representatives from TAMUG and College Station to work out the details of these two scholarships.



Dustin's graduation photo in his TAMUG Maritime Academy uniform (2001)

The two scholarships were established in August of 2016, which was a bit of a problem. We had decided to wait until our family Christmas in 2016 to present the plaques that recognized the scholarships we had established for Dustin and Lindsey.



Dustin, Brenda, and Glenn Dresner after they presented Dustin with the scholarship plaque (Christmas 2016)

We were able to keep the scholarships a secret for the rest of the year until our family Christmas. Our children were totally surprised and could not believe we had given them such a wonderful gift.

Our journey of establishing scholarships in academics, as well as Aggie Ring scholarships, has blessed us in more ways than we ever imagined. We just thought we were helping students with financial assistance, but the blessings and joy we have received from the student recipients has been beyond any expectations we might have had. Because our parents wanted more for us in the way of

educational opportunities and a better future for their children, our decision to “follow their lead and give back” has rewarded us in more ways than we could ever imagine. Brenda graduated with a degree in teaching from Sam Houston University, and spent 20 years in elementary teaching and 15 years in administration as an assistant principal. I worked my way up from a plant engineer up to an electric utility power plant manager. The goals of good jobs and giving back that our parents wanted for their children have been realized not only through us and our children, but hopefully in all the Aggie scholarship recipients that have received our endowed scholarships. We know our parents, like us, are proud of their values being passed on through these scholarships.

Have a Blessed and Terrific Day!

Brenda and Glenn '69 Dresner