Ms. Elsie Raer created the Raer Family Scholarship Fund with the Fargo Moorhead Area Foundation, which is dedicated to the family’s distinct and unique charitable causes. Elsie Raer and her sisters Charlotte and Gertrud displayed sincere passions and deep concerns for a variety of charitable causes. As they grew older, they researched, studied, and developed a passion for elder care education and the concept of “care for the caregiver.”

A young German family of modest means, the Raer Family came to America in 1912. Nearly 100 years later, the youngest daughter Elsie, assured that the legacy of the Raer Family will live forever and established the Raer Family Fund.

Elsie was born September 9, 1916, in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she grew up and graduated from high school. Elsie and her two older sisters, Charlotte and Gertrud, lived together their entire lives, mostly in the Fargo and Detroit Lakes area. Through mutual agreement, the sisters agreed the two older sisters would maintain the household while Elsie pursued an education. Elsie graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead and earned a Master’s degree from the University of Southern California. Elsie then returned to Fargo where she taught physical education at North Dakota State University and at Northfield, Minnesota for 35 years.

On August 9, 2006 at the age of 89 years old, Elsie joined her sisters Charlotte and Gertrud in death. Elsie left $1.85 million to the Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation to establish the Raer Family Fund, where 45 percent is dedicated to scholarships for students of the Fargo-Moorhead area.

If you have any questions or if you would like additional information please contact:
Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation
Lexi Oestreich, Program Officer
701-234-0756
lexi@areafoundation.org
Eligibility Requirements:
• Individuals residing within a 100-mile radius of Fargo who are accepted into a local higher education nursing program with a strong focus on geriatric care.
• Must demonstrate a commitment to provide care for the elderly in the Fargo-Moorhead area.
• Preference will be given to applicants who are currently employed by Bethany Retirement Living, Fargo, ND, and Eventide, Moorhead, MN. A letter of recommendation from the above organizations must accompany application.

Name_______________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________________________________
Telephone __________________________ Email: ________________________________________________________________
College Attending: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Employed by: ___Bethany Homes _______Eventide

Personal statement: Please attach a personal statement (500 words) addressing:

1. Why have you chosen the nursing field?
2. Explain your interest/experience in geriatric care.

Please use 12-point type and double-space your personal statement.

Signature: __________________________________________________________________________________________

Date: ____________________________

Applications should be emailed to:
Scholarships@areafoundation.org
with the subject line:
Raer Scholarship – Your Name
OR mailed to:
FM Area Foundation
Attn: Scholarships
409 7th Street South
Fargo, ND 58103