



Jack Tobin (center) and his sons, Sean and Patrick, in 1999.

Tobin Family Scholarship

Greater Worcester Community Foundation

In 1999, John M. (“Jack”) Tobin created this scholarship to foster philanthropy in his family and help local students pursue higher education. It is awarded to African-American students from Worcester who have shown motivation and responsibility during high school and have clear goals for college and a career.

Jack was born in Leominster, MA in 1945 and raised in West Boylston. He attended West Boylston High School and earned two degrees: a Bachelor’s from Merrimack College and a Master’s from Clark University. After college, he served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Jack returned home and worked for State Mutual Life Insurance while raising two sons in West Boylston with his wife, Carmen.

Carmen passed away in 1984, just after earning her R.N. license. To celebrate her life, Jack created the Carmen Tobin Nursing Scholarship at the Foundation, which is awarded to Quinsigamond Community College nursing students. The joy of participating in philanthropy caused Jack to return to the Foundation 15 years later to create the Tobin Family Scholarship.

Jack retired from State Mutual in 1992 and remained an active volunteer for the United Way, UMass Memorial Hospice and Youth Opportunities Upheld (Y.O.U.) Inc. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in West Boylston and belonged to several art museum associations in Worcester and Boston.

In 2000, Jack passed away suddenly, from a brief illness. He was only 55 years old. Though he and Carmen were both lost too soon, their spirits live on in their Foundation scholarships. Jack’s generosity, bolstered by financial contributions from many friends and family members, continues to help students attain their educational goals.

For more information, please contact:
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