



In Recognition of their years of leadership and service in SMHEA,
and the pioneering role they played in establishing Church Related
School registration programs for home educators in our area,

The Smoky Mountain Home Education Association

Establishes in their honor

the

Richard and Nancy Brown Alumni Scholarship

This 27th day of May, in the year of our Lord 2006

When the history of modern home education in East Tennessee is written, Dick and Nancy Brown will be remembered among the very few whose contributions literally changed the face of home education in our area. As leaders with SMHEA, they pioneered a new kind of umbrella registration program where home education was an equal partner seamlessly integrated with the day school program at Berean Christian School. Through years of growth, they created a model for other schools and mentored administrators of other umbrella registration programs. Most of the established area umbrella programs are directed by people who Nancy mentored. As a result, our area of the state has more day schools offering registration programs for home educators than anywhere in the state of Tennessee. They helped SMHEA earn a reputation as an organization that is serious about educational success.

Among their many contributions was the development of SMHEA's home education graduation ceremony. As graduation coordinators, they directed SMHEA's graduation until we had so many graduates that Berean Christian School was able to host its own graduation ceremony. Dick and Nancy became the first graduation directors of Berean Christian High School, and planned a strategy for dual graduations that would dramatically reduce the cost and effort of graduation for SMHEA, Berean Christian High School, and families of home school graduates.

Dick and Nancy have a long-term vision and commitment to home educators in our area. For this reason we have chosen to honor them by establishing an annual scholarship which seeks to perpetuate their vision by honoring a graduate from an SMHEA member family. The scholarship honors academic achievement and character. It will encourage families to continue to home educate through the high school years, and will help graduates continue to pursue excellence in education beyond their home school years. This scholarship will be awarded annually and will eventually be endowed so that Dick and Nancy's vision can be honored for years to come. More information on the scholarship can be found at www.smhea.org.

This scholarship will be funded, until it is endowed, by donations from SMHEA alumni, member families, and friends. All contributions will be used exclusively to award and endow the scholarship. No money will be used for operating expenses of SMHEA. Tax deductible donations of any amount may be made to payable to:

*SMHEA Scholarship Fund
925 View Harbour Road
Knoxville, TN 37934*

Questions may be addressed to Cory Bennett - 865-671-3059 - E-mail smheapres@gmail.com