

THE *Community*  
FOUNDATION  
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

## Douglas DeGross Scholarship for Automotive Studies



The **Douglas DeGross Scholarship for Automotive Studies** was created in honor of Doug's lifetime passion for cars. Doug built a successful career in the automotive industry and in his retirement, kept himself busy rebuilding a 1929 Ford Roadster and a 1940 Ford Pickup. He married his high school sweetheart, Teri Ritchey, who he later enjoyed living in Paso Robles, California with. Doug served as President of the Atascadero Chapter Early Ford V8 car club and was also a member of the Paso Robles Rotary Club. Over the course of his 30-year career, Doug and his family lived in several U.S. cities and enjoyed a three-year assignment in Paris, France.

Doug was born in Chehalis, Washington and attended Oregon State University where he graduated with his degree in engineering in 1969. He later earned his MBA from the University of Detroit. He started his career at Ford Motor Company and later worked for Freightliner Corporation, Bendix, and Allied-Signal (later Honeywell Corporation). During his career, Doug was the Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Bendix Heavy Vehicle Brake Systems.



In his free time, Doug was active and adventurous. Doug took up running while living in Elyria, Ohio, and eventually completed six marathons, including the New York Marathon. He enjoyed yearly hunting trips with family, and many ski trips over the years with family, friends, and work colleagues. Doug also loved spending time with his family and friends at Black Butte Ranch in Oregon for family reunions and holidays. This scholarship was created in Doug's name to help young people with a passion for automobiles.