

The Riggs Family Scholarship



The **Riggs Family Scholarship** was established by Phyllis (1927-2017) and Wilfred (“Budd”; 1927-2020) R. Riggs Jr. to help graduating seniors from San Luis Obispo County high schools make a successful transition to a four-year university.

Both Phyllis and Budd spent their youth in Morro Bay in the late 1930’s, leading up to the second World War. At this time, Morro Bay was noted by its protected harbor which was home to several commercial fishing boats and the Standard Oil tank farm North of town.

Their lives were shaped by the local community and schools. They both attended primary school in town and rode the bus to San Luis Obispo Senior High School. At this time, the opportunities for both higher education and the resulting careers in business were very limited along this part of the coast. The high school civics teacher was insistent that Budd enroll in a college program that would lead to being a Navy pilot during World War II. This teacher was largely responsible for launching Budd’s college career path that eventually led to a bachelor’s degree in engineering and an MBA from UC Berkeley. This higher education was pivotal in his successful career in business culminating in the positions of Vice President and Controller at Kaiser Steel Corporation. During retirement, Phyllis and Budd would continue to enjoy trips to Morro Bay and the surrounding coast.

Both Phyllis and Budd cherished their days in Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo. They established this scholarship to support the students of San Luis Obispo County having university aspirations, just as Phyllis and Budd did many years ago.

