

John O. Shirk Memorial Nursing Scholarship

This scholarship was established in 2011 by the Shirk family, in memory of John O. Shirk (1943-2011). John was an attorney with Barley Snyder in Lancaster, PA. He joined the firm in 1969, became a partner in 1973 and served as managing partner from 1983 to 1993. He also served as general counsel for Franklin and Marshall College. Mr. Shirk earned his undergraduate degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He was also a graduate of Manheim Township High School. John and his wife Mary Ann have two children, Caroline Shirk and Michael Shirk, and two grandchildren.



John served on the boards of numerous businesses and community organizations, including Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences from 2006-2011.

Personal experience with exceptional nurses who cared for his father in the month before his death reinforced John's belief in the excellence of PA College's nursing program and graduates. He shared: "I am truly in awe of the care he received and the warmth and skill of the people who provided it. That care comes first and foremost from a cadre of nurses, and I am the College's for life – what we do is so important." In establishing this scholarship fund in his memory, the Shirk family hopes to honor his commitment by supporting nursing students at PA College, encouraging their academic achievement and positive impact in the lives of those they serve. The Shirk family also believes strongly in the positive power of PA College in helping to lift up families by preparing students for sustainable and rewarding careers and hopes that this scholarship fund will have a positive long-term impact on the lives of the recipients.

For more information, contact Karen Jenkins, Director of Donor Relations at kljenkins@pacollege.edu and 717-947-6277.