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Father Establishes Scholarship to Honor Late Alumna, Educator

Winthrop University

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Father Establishes Scholarship to Honor Late Alumna, Educator

Quick Facts

- Elizabeth "Betsy" Thomson graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in special education.
- She taught at the Metro School in Charlotte and Nation Ford High School.
- The scholarship is for nontraditional students majoring in many areas of the education field.



Betsy Thomson

ROCK HILL, S.C. -- **Elizabeth "Betsy" Thomson '05** was an avid supporter of children, especially those with special needs. Her father, Jim Thomson, has established the **Elizabeth Ann Thomson Scholarship** to memorialize his late daughter, a former educator, and support future teachers.

Established in fall 2012, the Elizabeth Ann Thomson Scholarship offers financial assistance to nontraditional Winthrop students, including those majoring in early childhood education, elementary education, middle level education, special education, music education, dance education or other education certification programs.

Born in Weymouth, Mass., Betsy Thomson grew up in Barrington, R.I., and graduated from Barrington High School. She earned her **B.S. in special education** at Winthrop, where she was a member of **Alpha Delta Pi Sorority**. Betsy also served as activities director for **Best Buddies at Winthrop**, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. She taught exceptional children at Nation Ford High School in Fort Mill, S.C., and she taught previously at the Metro School in Charlotte, N.C. Betsy also served as a Special Olympics state coach.

Jim Thomson, a resident of Rhode Island, noted that Betsy, his youngest daughter, went into education because she enjoyed working with children. He decided to establish the Elizabeth Ann Thomson Scholarship at Winthrop, he said, to commemorate Betsy's enriching experiences at the university.

"The time Betsy spent at Winthrop was very positive for her; she developed some very close friendships there, and overall Winthrop was a place where she matured and grew," said Thomson.

To make a gift in support of the Elizabeth Ann Thomson Scholarship, visit <https://www.winthrop.edu/give>. Contact the **Office of Development** at 803/323-2150 to find out more information about making a gift to Winthrop.

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