BALDWIN AND SHIRLEY MARTZ SCHOLARSHIP

Baldwin Martz was born and raised on a farm near Ashley, ND. He graduated in 1938 from Ashley high school as class valedictorian. After brief stints in the CCCs and as a country school teacher, he entered the University of North Dakota in the fall of 1941.

Shirley Hubbard Martz was raised in Mohall, ND, and graduated as class valedictorian in 1941. She spent a year of college studying drama in Vermont, then transferred to UND for the fall of 1942.

Baldwin and Shirley selected accounting as a major, and soon became classmates. They graduated from UND in May 1945. Baldwin became a staff accountant with E.W. Brady in Grand Forks. Shirley joined the accounting firm of Janz and Iverson in Minot. Both passed the CPA Exam in 1946, and they were married later that year. Their first year of marriage was spent in Grand Forks, with Baldwin continuing at the Brady firm, and Shirley teaching at UND as an instructor in the accounting department.

As the end of 1947, they moved to Minot to become partners in the Janz & Iverson firm, which then became Janz, Iverson & Martz. The senior partner, Roy Janz, died in 1951 and Baldwin became manager. During the 1950’s, the Martzs had five children—two of which had the temerity to be born during “tax season”, and Shirley accommodated them with a maternity leave of about 2 weeks before returning to her clients. Mr. Iverson left the firm in 1957, and the firm became Baldwin Martz & Associates. Business was brisk but employees were difficult to find, resulting in many 70 hour workweeks for the partners. During the 1960s employees became more available, and as the practice continued to grow, three partners were added.

In 1981 Baldwin Martz & Associates merged with E.W. Brady & Co. of Grand Forks to become the present day Brady Martz firm. At about this time, Baldwin began noticing symptoms of the neurological disease which was eventually to take his life. This led to his retirement from public accounting in 1985. Shirley retired in 1989. The next decade was spent mostly seeking medical treatment for Baldwin’s progressive disease. Although clinics were visited throughout the country, no effective treatment was found, he died in March 2000.

The Baldwin and Shirley Martz Scholarship was created in 2000. The first scholarship was presented in 2001.