Loren Otter Memorial Scholarship Established 2015

Loren Otter was born and raised in southeastern Michigan. He attended rural schools through high school, starting in a one room schoolhouse and graduating from Belleville High School. He continued his education at the University of Michigan where he received a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering. Subsequently, he received a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Renssalaer Polytechnical Institute. Loren then moved east to Connecticut and began his working career at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, later retiring from UTC International Fuel Cells after many years of service.

Loren moved to Bolton in 1976 where he resided for 47 years! Although frequently intermingled, Loren's interests were centered in three areas: Family - his Michigan family and especially the Connecticut family he married into and with whom he shared many happy moments and milestone events; Friendships – maintaining life-long friendships with his rural school friends, his P&W lunch friends and new friends met on vacations and in the community; and Community Service – he was a charter member of the Bolton Lions Club, served as their secretary and president; active at the state and international levels he served as District Governor for The International Association of Lions Clubs District 23 C Connecticut; he was a member and past chairman of the Town of Bolton Planning and Zoning Commission for over 25 years and a member of the Republican Town Committee.

In Loren's own words: "for the Lions, the thrust is doing things for people that they cannot do for themselves and providing a wide range of services to benefit the less fortunate throughout the world; for the town committees, it was a way to work for the improvement and orderly development of the town. In both cases, volunteering for the town and volunteering for the Lions, the compensation is the good feeling of knowing that one has done something to make someone's life a little better."

Loren was near and dear to the hearts of the BSF board members. He was a gentle soul, quick to laugh, and always had a smile. It is our honor to award this scholarship in Loren's memory on behalf of his wife, and long-time BSF member, Elaine, family and friends.