



AOTF Announces the Linda Botten Endowed Scholarship



The American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF), Bethesda, Maryland, announces the creation the Linda Botten Endowed Scholarship.

Linda Botten graduated from the occupational therapy program at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. In 1982, she established a private practice that spanned the state of Montana as well as parts of Wyoming. This venture employed the largest number of occupational therapists in Montana for many years. Linda became a Certified Hand Therapist (CHT) in 1996 and she was also one of the first occupational therapists to become RESNA certified in assistive technology. She established a hand therapy practice in 2000 that flourished and grew to five locations throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura counties in California. She also helped to launch a Lymphedema screening clinic at the Santa Barbara Cancer Center and in 2001, she received the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Health Advocate Award.

At the time of her death in 2007, Botten was the AOTA Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) advisor to the American Medical Association. She was also appointed to the Montana Governor's Board of Occupational Therapy Practice and she worked to educate the Montana Medicaid system to provide reimbursements for the treatment of countless children and seniors. "(Linda) was a powerhouse of ideas and took action," said Connie Grenz, former president of the Montana Occupational Therapy Association. "She was the steam behind our engine. She was motivated by a love of (occupational therapy) and how it could help so many other people," she said.

As a testament to her commitment to occupational therapy, her children have established the Linda Botten Endowed Scholarship to commemorate her successful career as a dedicated occupational therapist and advocate for patients and the profession.

Endowed scholarships continue in perpetuity, supporting future generations of professionals and leaders in occupational therapy and touching countless others who benefit from their expertise. "We are grateful for the generosity of Linda Botten's family and the many occupational therapists who were so deeply touched and inspired by her," said AOTF Executive Director, Charles Christiansen.

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation is a 501c3 charitable, scientific and educational organization established in 1965. To learn more about AOTF visit www.aotf.org

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