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# Raeburn E. Barnes Trust Student Loan Program

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**Judge Joseph Daniel Barnes**    **Mrs. Raeburn Epler Barnes**  
1869-1952                                      1873-1964



## The Barnes Legacy

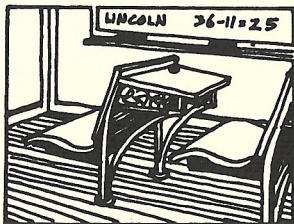
The will of Mrs. Raeburn E. Barnes provides that upon the death of her last named beneficiary, and with the exception of other specified grants, the residue and remainder of her estate shall be used to provide a loan fund to worthy and deserving persons for the purpose of acquiring an education beyond high school.

The loan fund became available in the fall of 1983. Through the use of this educational fund, qualified persons will be able to broaden their horizons, to extend their life goals and to have the potential of making their world a better place in which to live. The fund is indeed, a lasting legacy of Mrs. Barnes and her husband Judge Barnes.

Reading a history of the Barnes and Epler families is like reading a saga of American history. (Mrs. Barnes's maiden name was Epler.) The Eplers came to Shelby County around 1815 and cleared an 80 acre farm in Perry Township, "having no means of support but their willing hands."



Mrs. Barnes's great-grandfather served in the Revolutionary War and her father, Thomas Epler, fought in the Civil War. She was born in Maplewood in 1873, moved to Sidney at age 13 and subsequently graduated from Sidney High School in 1892. She taught in the Shelby County Schools until she married Joseph D. Barnes in 1899.



Throughout her married life Mrs. Barnes maintained an active interest in the community. She was a member of the New Century Club, the Book Club, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Hospital Benefit Club and St. Mark's Episcopal Church. A friend of Mrs. Barnes related that she

once said, "Sidney was good to me and I have a great love for the city and am concerned for the advancement of young people." Her early

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experience as a teacher and her life long interest in youth certainly played a part in the establishment of this loan fund for educational purposes. Mrs. Barnes died in 1964 at the age of 91. A close companion in her later years said, "To know Mrs. Barnes was to love Mrs. Barnes – really a great lady."

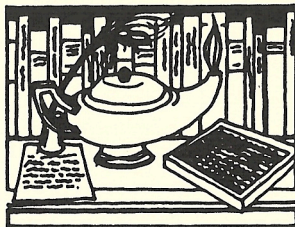


Judge Barnes was born in Champaign County in 1869. The Barnes family had migrated to that area in 1847. In 1884 the family moved to Sidney where Joseph graduated from Sidney High School. He completed his law degree at the University of Cincinnati in 1889 and passed the

State Bar Exam at the age of 21. He immediately established a successful law practice in Sidney. In the early years of his legal work he also served as city solicitor of Sidney and was elected to two terms as Shelby County Prosecutor.

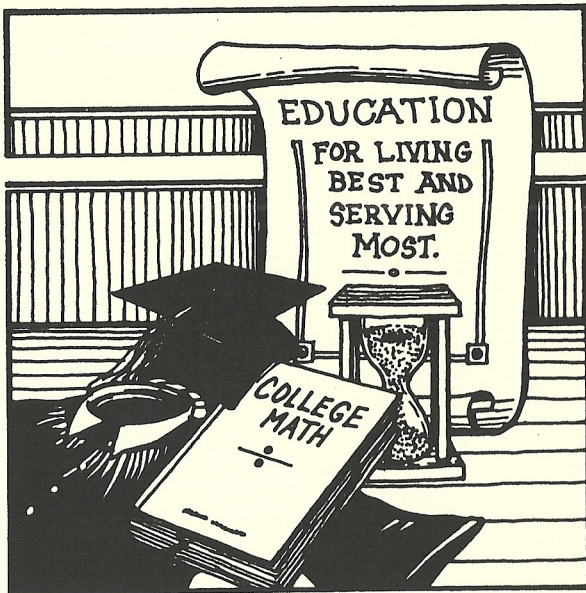
The judge had a long and very successful tenure on the bench. Beginning in 1917 he served as Judge of Shelby County Court of Common Pleas for 16 years. In 1933 he was appointed to the Second District Court of Appeals of Ohio and he served on that bench until an illness in 1944 forced his retirement.

Joseph Daniel Barnes not only had an outstanding record as a lawyer and jurist, but, like his wife Raeburn, he also contributed time and effort to improving the community in which he lived. It is said that his counsel and advice were sought by many groups in the community. He was head of the Shelby County Red Cross during WWI, served on the original hospital board when Wilson Memorial was built, was an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and held offices in both the Shelby County and the Ohio State Bar Association. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of Citizens National Bank.



Judge Barnes and his wife Raeburn were exemplary citizens in the finest American tradition. Their legacy will live in the lives of others for years to come.

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More information or application forms  
may be obtained by contacting:

**Raeburn E. Barnes Trust**  
**Student Loan Program**

P. O. Box 652

Sidney, OH 45365

Attn: Administrator

or [www.bright.net/~barnestr](http://www.bright.net/~barnestr)

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