

Named Endowed Funds

The Textor Family Fund for Intercultural Understanding and Harmony



This picture, taken during World War II in 1945 at the Textor family home in Ohio, includes the entire family as it was then. Left to right: Clinton Kenney Textor, 1889-1973; Lillian Nickles Textor, 1890-1976; Margaret Drotning Textor, 1917-2006; Navy Lt. Clinton Nickles Textor, 1918-2006; Suzanne Greeley Textor, b. 1942; Joan Elizabeth Textor, b. 1926; Army Pfc. Robert Bayard Textor, b. 1923.

The Textor Family Fund for Intercultural Understanding and Harmony was initiated by Professor Robert B. Textor to support educational programs that will assist in preparing local students to understand, appreciate and deal with intercultural problems that exist today and that are bound to become more important in an era of globalization.

Bob Textor was born in his family home in Cloquet in 1923 and lived there until 1937. He went on to live and work in many different places, and to become a professor of anthropology at Stanford University. He now lives in Portland, Oregon.

“After having lived in about a dozen American states and for about a dozen years in Asia and Europe, I have often speculated on how different my life would have been if I had been born and raised somewhere else,” said Textor. “It’s hard to be objective about such matters, yet I really do think that fate dealt me a good hand. I consider myself lucky to have spent my childhood in Cloquet – a good community with good values and good schools.”

Textor initiated the Textor Family Fund to honor his family and to give something back to Cloquet. He wants the Fund to provide students in the Cloquet area with learning opportunities that will help them to respect and understand cultural differences, and to seek common ground with people from other cultures. This is especially important today, as the world economy grows ever more globalized and the Information Revolution makes new forms of intercultural contact possible. This Fund will promote non-violence, harmony, liberty, opportunity and fairness for all.

CLINTON KENNEY TEXTOR was educated at the University of Wisconsin to the "PhD all but thesis" level in chemical engineering, and between 1921 and 1937 held various executive positions at the Northwest Paper Company, for which he invented and patented Nortex Paper, a kraft variety that utilized otherwise-unusable wood stocks. He belonged to various local associations, served as treasurer of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and quite likely would eventually have run for the school board if he had remained in Cloquet.

LILLIAN NICKLES TEXTOR was a librarian at the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau in Madison in 1917, where she met and married C. K. Textor. In Cloquet she was a full-time homemaker, and active in the St. Andrew's Guild, the PTA, the PEO, and the Women's Friday Club.

MARGARET DROTNING TEXTOR of Chisholm, Minnesota was a student at the University of Minnesota in 1938, where she met and married C. N. Textor. Margaret was for many years a departmental administrator at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

CLINTON NICKLES TEXTOR was educated at the University of Minnesota and Lafayette College, and during World War II served in the Navy as a lieutenant on cruiser duty in the Pacific, earning two battle stars. After the war he entered the field of business and spent most of his career as an independent manufacturer's representative, located in Atlanta. Clint and Margaret retired in 1984 and moved to Augusta, Georgia, where they both died in 2006.

SUZANNE GREELEY TEXTOR, daughter of Clint and Margaret, was the first of nine grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren to date, descended from Clinton Kenney and Lillian Nickles Textor. Suzanne was educated at Harvard College in history and at the graduate level in Geography at Columbia University. In 2007 she retired from many years of teaching History at a lycee in Monaco, where she lives with her husband, Aime Ferrari.

JOAN ELIZABETH TEXTOR was educated in Sociology at Ohio State University, where she met and married A. Lovell Elliot in 1948. Joan worked thereafter as a social worker until the first of her four children arrived, after which she became a full-time homemaker until her children finished their educations. She and Lovell now live in Barnstable, Massachusetts, where for many years Joan worked part-time as a tour guide for groups of visitors interested in the history of the Boston area.

ROBERT BAYARD TEXTOR was, at the time of this photograph in 1945, assigned to the Military Intelligence Japanese Language School. Bob subsequently received a doctorate in cultural anthropology at Cornell, and after post-doctoral appointments at Yale and Harvard, joined the faculty at Stanford in 1964, taking early retirement in 1990. He now lives in Portland, Oregon, where he writes and consults in the areas of intercultural relations and strategic visioning.