Winifred Gillen Lawrence was for twenty-seven years an accomplished teacher and counselor for students with special educational needs at the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), Yorktown Heights, New York. Winifred’s expertise in serving students with special needs was well recognized by both her students and her colleagues.

Educated in the Virginia, Illinois schools and Knox College, she received a Bachelor of Professional Studies Degree with honors from Pace University and two Masters Degrees from Manhattan College, both of New York City. While at BOCES, Winifred was frequently the recipient of awards for excellence in teaching and counseling.

Having been married for 54 years, she was the mother of two sons and a daughter and grandmother to seven.

It is because of her dedication to education, her commitment to self improvement for herself and others and the need for trained medical professionals that her family has established this Scholarship in her memory at Illinois State University’s College of Nursing.

Candidates must be accepted for enrollment or enrolled in good standing in any Mennonite College of Nursing undergraduate, graduate or doctoral sequence, must demonstrate strong academic achievement as evidenced by a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25 on a 4.0 scale, and will preferably have an interest in geriatrics or an interest in long term care as a career goal. The ideal candidate will have previous employment experience at a Heritage Enterprises facility and must use the scholarship for educational expenses.