Joe E. Talkington retired from Illinois State University in June 1991. He served the University with distinction as a faculty member and chairperson in the Department of Technology (formerly the Department of Industrial Technology). Joe’s wife, Charlotte, also graduated from Illinois State University majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences (formerly Home Economics) in 1961. Upon his retirement, Joe began the Star Uniform business as President/Owner with locations in Bloomington, Urbana and Springfield, Illinois. He sold his business to his son, Michael Talkington.

Michael received his bachelor’s degree in Finance from Illinois State University in 1980. He also attended University High School. He played basketball and football in high school. He currently works at State Farm.

Both Joe and Michael Talkington remain dedicated to the nursing profession and Illinois State University. They generously created this scholarship to provide opportunity, support and encouragement for nursing students at Illinois State University.

Each candidate for the Star for Nursing Education Endowed Scholarship must meet the following criteria:

A. The recipient must be enrolled in good academic standing or accepted for enrollment in the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. (This may include transfer or Accelerated B.S.N. students.)

B. The recipient may be an undergraduate or graduate student.

C. Funds must be used for educational, housing, and/or materials expenses (i.e. books, uniforms, equipment).