“Mel” Slater and “Doc” Potts both grew up on farms south of Lubbock and graduated from Cooper Rural High School. They each attended Texas Tech University where Mel majored in Home Economics and graduated in 1948. Doc graduated from Tech in August 1948 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics. They were married in Lubbock on June 28, 1948 after Doc’s return from overseas duty in the U.S. armed forces.

Retiring from 20 years of service as the general manager of Taylor-Evans Farm Stores, Doc served as President and C.E.O. of the First National Bank and as an original investor and current Director of State National Bank. Doc and Mel Potts’ commitment to many civic and community activities, such as the Heart Association and the United Way, was highlighted by Doc’s reception of the Plainview Chamber of Commerce Citizens Service Award in 1994. Mel and Doc have four children, J’Melle Fletcher, Kathy Boyett, Marilyn Gentry, and Jim, and are the proud grandparents of nine.

J.A. “Doc” Potts and Melba (Slater) Potts concern for young people’s education led them to provide an endowed Presidential Scholarship to assist deserving sophomores, juniors, and seniors to continue their Christian education at Wayland Baptist University. The scholarship fund stems from a $100 thousand gift from the Potts’ estate.