The Mauriene Smithson Matthews Endowed Scholarship

The Mauriene Smithson Matthews Endowed Scholarship to benefit the Flying Queens basketball program was established by Robert Matthews in memory of his wife of almost 50 years, who passed away in June of 2007. An outstanding player at Dimmitt High School, Mauriene was regarded as one of the best guards in the nation and, during her four years at Wayland, the Queens posted an outstanding record of 120 wins and just 15 losses with 10 of those coming in her freshman year. She won four letters for the Queens, who finished second in the nation her sophomore year and won national AAU titles in 1954 and 1955. She served as co-captain both years. She was a member of the U.S. National AAU team that won the Pan American Games in 1955. She was inducted into the Wayland Athletic Hall of Honor in 1996. After graduating from Wayland, Mauriene taught for 33 years in Plainview, receiving numerous teaching honors and was awarded a Lifetime Membership in PTA. She retired from the Plainview district in 1995. She was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church at Providence. She and Robert had a daughter, Robin.