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DAYTON, Ohio, June 11, 1969 --- The University of Dayton faculty scholarship, established after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in April, 1968, has been named the University of Dayton Faculty Scholarship in memory of Curtis Eugene Niles, a 1952 UD graduate and Dayton Civil Rights leader who died of cancer on March 11 of this year. The announcement was made today by Dr. Bud T. Cochran of the Department of English who also revealed that the scholarship fund has reached $18,000.

Dr. Cochran, who administers the fund, also revealed that the first scholarship recipient would be Charles Conrad Jr., a Colonel White High School graduate who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conrad of 117 Cambridge Avenue. He will hold the $1,500 scholarship, which includes tuition and fees, for the 1969-70 school year.

In making his announcements, Dr. Cochran said that the scholarship goes to a Negro graduate of a Dayton area high school who is beginning his college studies at the University of Dayton, who ranks below the top 5% of his graduating class but who possesses sound academic potential and can demonstrate a financial need.

He added that the tuition and fees scholarship can be held for only one year.

The scholarship, according to Dr. Cochran, is being invested by the University for the Faculty Scholarship Committee. The Fund will be accumulated solely by contributions from the UD faculty and faculty organizations. Original monies include $7,550 solicited from more than 100 faculty members last spring and fall, $250 from the Faculty Luncheon Club and $10,000 from the University's Development Office. Money assigned by the latter office had been contributed by the faculty over the years and was not committed to a specific academic purpose.

Mr. Niles, who was a graduate of St. John's parochial school, Eaton High School and UD, was air traffic manager with the Air Force Logistics Command at Wright Patterson Air Force Base for nine years.

He was treasurer and co-founder of FORCE, all-black community action group; a member of MALACHI, religious community-action group, and the Greene County NAACP. He was president of the St. James parish board of education and in that position was instrumental in initiating a study of de facto segregation in parochial schools in Dayton. His wife, Bula Virginia, and three daughters, Karen, Sheila and Indra, live in Dayton.

Conrad, who was born in Las Vegas, Nevada, came to Colonel White this school year from Carter G. Woodson High School in Abilene, Texas. At the latter school he spent three years on the basketball team and one in track.

He is currently President of Youth on Unity (YOU) in the Daytonview area. He is going to work for VISTA in Daytonview this summer. He will major in communication arts at UD.