Ms. Dale Flener, a career civil service employee of SIUC, worked as the Administrative Assistant in the Automotive Program until her retirement in 2005 at age 82.

Dale developed lifelong friendships with faculty, staff, and students. She was the mom to many of the students during their stay at SIU. When former students returned as alumni, they were sure to stop in and say hello to Dale.

Being born, raised, and living her entire life in rural Mulkeytown, IL, Dale believed and displayed a true passion for hard work her entire life. She cut her own grass and even chopped her own wood to heat her home.

Upon her retirement, she established this endowment to help provide the financial assistance to students enrolled in the program and to demonstrate her continued and enthusiastic support of hard-working students.