James (Jim) Krudl taught Automotive Technology at the Technology Center of DuPage for 30 years before his retirement in 2005.

Jim always had a smile for everyone. He worked with his students to learn how to be considerate in life and successful in their careers.

Jim always felt he owed his successful career to SIU where he earned his bachelors and masters degrees. He was a huge supporter of SIU Automotive and he mentored many students to attend the program.

Jim was not only a teacher to his students, but a role model, fatherly image, and to some, a lifelong friend. Many of his former students would often return and comment, “If it weren’t for Jim Krudl, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Jim and his family established this endowment in his passing to continue his work in supporting well-deserving SIU Automotive students and the Program.