



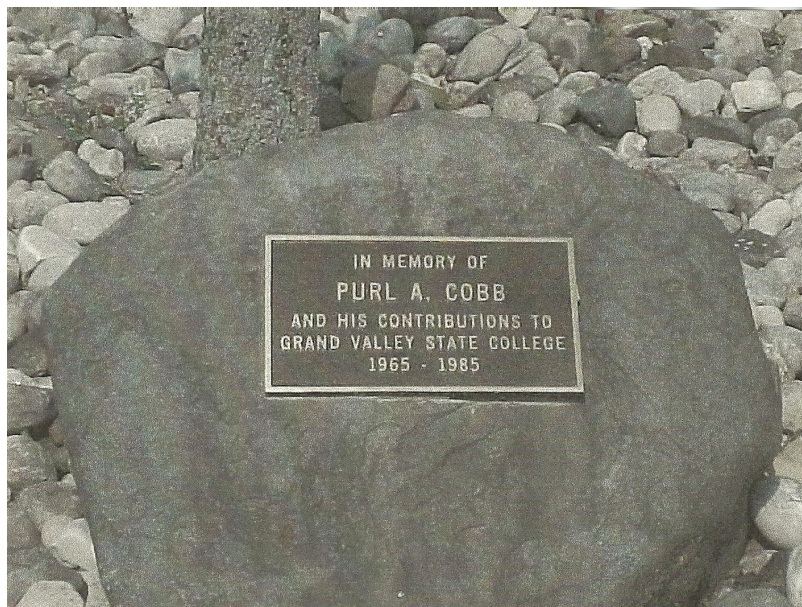
PURL A. COBB MEMORIAL TRAINING FUND

**FACILITIES SERVICES & PLANNING
PEW CAMPUS OPERATIONS
PEW CAMPUS SECURITY
PUBLIC SAFETY**

Donations

In addition to funds provided by the University, individual donations are added to the money available for employees. For information on how to make a contribution to the Purl Cobb Memorial Training Fund contact the Grand Valley State University Development Office, via phone at 331-6000 or mail:

University Development Office
Grand Valley State University
901 Eberhard Center
301 Fulton St. West
Grand Rapids, MI 49504-6495



Purl A. Cobb: Biographical Information

Purl A. Cobb Jr. was born on September 23, 1925 in South Haven, Michigan, and attended South Haven High School. He and his wife "Gussie", had four children—Dan, Ellen, Paul and Vince, and lived in Hudsonville, Michigan. In his spare time Purl enjoyed traveling, stained glass making and "tinkering".

Before joining GVSU as a Field Inspector on August 9, 1965, Purl worked as a carpenter, foreman and field inspector for an architectural firm. During his twenty-year tenure as a Grand Valley employee, he has served as Utilities Maintenance Supervisor, Plant Operations Coordinator, Plant Operations Superintendent and Campus Police Chief. The last position he held was that of Director of Utilities and Repairs.

After a lengthy illness, Purl passed away in November of 1985. His co-workers, friends and colleagues began to discuss the best way to commemorate his years of friendship and service to Grand Valley.

On May 9, 1986, a dedication ceremony was held in front of the Service Building during which a crimson maple tree was planted and a plaque unveiled in tribute to his memory. It was also announced that a Grand Valley Board of Control resolution had been passed establishing the Purl A. Cobb Memorial Training Fund.

Purl A. Cobb Memorial Training Fund Committee

Purl had a strong belief in the value of increasing personal satisfaction and improving work performance through continuing education. The purpose of the Board resolution was to fund training opportunities for campus operations personnel (Facilities Services & Planning, Pew Campus Operations, Pew Campus Security and Public Safety). This committee is made up of a cross section of staff from Administrative Professional, AFSCME and Clerical staff. The first meeting of the committee took place on July 18, 1986.

Monies are available to reimburse employees for courses that cannot be funded through other sources (i.e. courses offered through union membership or as part of the GVSU benefit package). All applications are reviewed by the committee members and a final vote taken on the suitability of the request for reimbursement.

Training Activities

Since 1986 over half of all campus operations employees have received funds for training and development or benefitted from committee-sponsored workshops. Individuals have received reimbursement for courses covering such topics as scuba diving, EMT training, self defense, wood carving, pottery, pneumatics and photography. Funding has also been provided for employees to attend annual job-related workshops. Many employees have participated in the on-going CPR/First Aid program set up by the Committee and / or attended one of several department wide motivational workshops.

Application for Reimbursement

1. Employees are limited to reimbursement for two courses per calendar year and/or 1000.00 per calendar year.
2. Reimbursement may be issued for textbooks for courses, but not supplies that can still be used following completion of a class (cameras, computer equipment, etc.)
3. Mileage, meals and hotel charges while attending classes are not reimbursable expenses.
4. Before the request for reimbursement is approved, applicants must provide the following in order to receive reimbursement:
 - A. A receipt indicating the course fee, books and/or materials have been paid for and
 - B. Proof of satisfactory course completion.
5. Employees are to make arrangements with their supervisors for any time away from work needed to attend a course. The Committee does not reimburse the employees for lost wages due to course attendance.
6. The committee reserves the right to approve or deny any reimbursement based upon the merits of each request.

Requests for funding are submitted on application forms available from committee members. It is strongly recommended that if an employee has a question about the eligibility of a request, he/she discuss it with a committee member before enrolling in the course.

Additional Information

Any Facilities Services & Planning, Pew Campus Operations, Pew Campus Security, or Public Safety employee interested in applying for reimbursement for a course should contact a committee member. Committee members can also answer questions and/or provide additional information.

The Purl A. Cobb Memorial Training Fund is a benefit unique to the campus operations employees. Employees are encouraged to take advantage of this program and keep it in mind when considering training opportunities.

Grand Valley State Board of Control Resolution

Below is the Board resolution passed on February 14, 1986.:

WHEREAS, Purl A. Cobb served Grand Valley State College for two decades as a valuable and loyal employee, earning the respect and admiration of students, faculty, and staff, his untimely death prompts the institution to consider how best to memorialize his contributions to GVSC in an appropriate and lasting manner.

It is the recommendation of the Board of Control Committee, consisting of trustees Barbara Van't Hof and Arnold Ott, that the Board authorize the administration to carry out the following:

RESOLVED, that (1) a crimson maple tree be planted on campus in a visible location and marked with a plaque carrying a memorial inscription; (2) the Purl A. Cobb Memorial Training Fund be established in the Physical Plant Department, enabling employees to participate in special training programs to improve their skills and enhance their opportunity for advancement; and (3) a dedicatory ceremony be planned for the coming springtime, perhaps May 9, 1986, to formally announce and dedicate these memorials to the memory of Purl A. Cobb.