

Lester J. Gosier

Lester James Gosier was born and raised in Oswego, New York where he received his primary and secondary education. He earned his teaching certification from the State Normal School at Oswego in 1937. He continued his education at Albany State Teacher's College, New York University, and the New School for Social Science where he earned his BS and MS degrees. His first teaching assignment was at Catskill High School, a small village on the Hudson River near the foothills of the Catskill Mountains. It was here that he would meet Carolyn Heath Lynes, the girl who would become his wife, the mother of his children, and his lifetime companion until her passing in 1995.

In 1942 Lester was offered a position teaching science in a far away school district on Long Island called Bay Shore High School. He packed up his belongings and moved his young family to Bay Shore where he was destined to spend the rest of his teaching career.

Lester joined the U.S. Army Reserve in 1943. While in the Reserve he was a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff School. In 1945, while teaching in Bay Shore he was called to active duty, attended Officer's Candidate School, and received his commission as a Second Lieutenant. He was released from active duty in 1947 with the rank of First Lieutenant and was retired from the U.S. Army Reserve in 1965 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Mr. Gosier taught science at Bay Shore High School and the Junior High School for 36 years. He also coached cross country and track during the 50's and 60's, winning the state championship in 1952. During this tenure he received numerous awards from the National Science Foundation in Washington DC, served as President of the Bay Shore Teachers Association, President of the Science Teachers of Suffolk County, and President of the Retired Teachers of Suffolk County when he retired from teaching in 1977. In addition to teaching, Mr. Gosier thoroughly enjoyed being involved in student activities and coaching.

In 1952 Mr. Gosier helped establish the Teachers Federal Credit Union. This institution was born in the cafeteria of the Bay Shore High School with

assets of \$35.00. Today the Teachers Federal Credit Union building in Bay Shore is named after Lester J. Gosier and has assets of over 2.7 billion. He remained on the TFCU Board of Directors until 2008. He also served as a member of the Advisory Board for Southside Hospital and was involved in many community organizations and charities.

Mr. Gosier's six children were all raised in Bay Shore and are all proud graduates of Bay Shore High. They are Thomas C. Lynes, Carol Anne (Lynes) Fenter, Jim (Lester J. Gosier Jr.), Mary Jane (Gosier) Rowlette, Janette Louise (Gosier) Foley, and Margaret Elizabeth (Gosier) Hauptfleisch.