

Honoring an Entrepreneur's Legacy

Fall 2017



Joan Radcliffe Brower '58 and husband, William, have established an endowed scholarship to honor the memory of their daughter, Katharine, by supporting Rowan University and local high school graduates.

Katharine graduated from Pitman High School in 1982 and, in 1989, established a business called International Laser, eventually accruing over \$2 million in revenue. By recycling ink cartridges, her company kept thousands of tons of plastic, metal and paper out of landfills.

The Philadelphia Business Journal named her a "Woman of Distinction" in 2001 and also named International Laser as one of "South Jersey's 25 Fastest Growing Privately Held Companies" for six consecutive years.

An active philanthropist, in 1997 she established the "Women's Entrepreneurial Spirit Award," an annual scholarship to benefit young women at Pitman High School.

After her untimely passing in 2005, Katharine's family wanted her legacy to live on and created the Katharine Brower Foundation. Shortly after, the couple decided the best way to honor her memory would be to establish an endowment in her name at Rowan University, Joan's alma mater.

"Our daughter had a passion for giving back to her community," the Browsers explained. "Preserving the environment, research and entrepreneurship were important to her. Rowan will be able to honor the joy she had for living and giving by helping young people achieve their dreams."

Now called The Katharine Brower Endowed Scholarship, the fund supports local students who major in science, health science or business and who share Katharine's dream of becoming an entrepreneur.