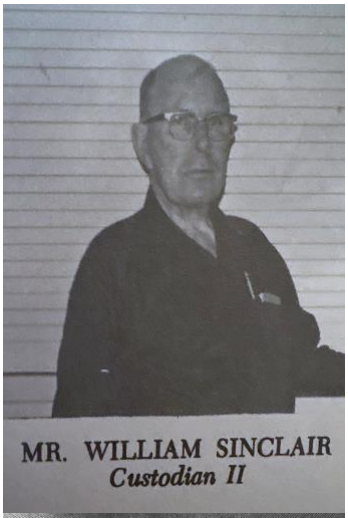
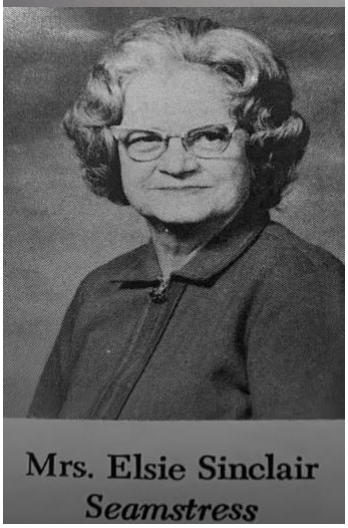
DID YOU KNOW?



By Treasurer Debra Weyers, Class of 1979

William (Bill) Sinclair graduated from the Nebraska School for the Deaf in 1930. Elsie, his wife, was originally from Kansas. It is not known at this time whether she attended the Kansas School for the Deaf. After her parents passed away, Elsie went to live with her brother, who was living in Omaha at the time. Elsie was unable to read and write; her brother contacted NSD to see if there might be work available for her. Mrs. Jeffers told him that she would offer her a job at NSD. That was how, through NSD, Elsie met Bill, and the two eventually married.







Left: William Sinclair, Senior picture, Class of 1930.

Right: Wedding Dress made by Elsie Sinclair on a doll for Mary (Haynes) (Skeen) Miller, Class of 1953, for her Bridal Shower as a cake topper.
See the picture at the bottom.



For many years, Bill and Elsie lived in an apartment at the boys' dormitory at NSD. Bill worked as a houseparent, then as a maintenance worker, while Elsie worked at the school doing sewing and mending. Sewing was Elsie's greatest talent. Although she could not read or write, she had an amazing ability to understand sewing patterns, directions, and instructions and could put them into practice through her skill and experience. After Bill retired and later passed away. Elsie moved to Lincoln and lived with her friend, Irene Leavitt, an NSD graduate. Irene cared for Elsie until she was no longer able to do so. She then returned to Kansas, where she lived with her cousin until her death. Elsie's story is a wonderful reminder that a person's abilities cannot always be measured by the things they can read or write. Her gift for sewing was extraordinary, and she used that talent to contribute to the NSD community for many years. Through her work, her marriage to Bill, and the people who cared for her throughout her life. Elsie became part of the school's history and the lives of those who knew her.

A childhood memory of Bill and Elsie (by Peggy (Skeen) Scherling)
I remember Bill and Elsie well from my childhood. My mom and dad were friends with them, and I remember going to the NSD campus with my parents to visit them. Elsie also sewed a wedding dress for a doll for my mom's bridal shower (see picture). She also sewed several dresses for my dolls. I will never forget how kind and well-mannered Elsie was, despite having very little formal education. She had such a gentle and gracious way about her, and I have always remembered her fondly.

