Eugene and Julianne LaCroce were born and raised in Shamokin, PA. They met and were married in 1959. A few years later, Eugene was hired as the Comptroller at Mount Saint Mary’s College, later becoming Treasurer. In 1964, they moved to Emmitsburg with their three children: Gene, Maria, and Regina. In 1967, youngest daughter Kathleen was born, followed by the youngest LaCroce child, James, in 1974. Eugene and Julianne were, and continue to be, devout members of St. Joseph’s Church. They have always been ardent supporters of Catholic education. All five of their children were educated at Mother Seton School, beginning in 1966 through 1988, when Jim graduated. In 1977, shortly after the birth of her youngest son, Julianne earned her college degree and began teaching Middle School Language Arts at Mother Seton School. In 1986, Julianne discovered a true love of teaching high school English Literature, and later serving as guidance counselor, at St. John’s Prospect Hall (now known as St. John’s Catholic Prep). She retired in 2004, but briefly came out of retirement to serve an additional year as the school’s guidance counselor before retiring a second and final time in 2006.

Eugene also served Mother Seton School, volunteering his services in assisting the Sisters with budgets and finances throughout the years. He retired from Fort Ritchie and remains an active volunteer in the church. Though their children are grown and most have moved out of the area, Eugene and Julianne continue to remain dedicated to their faith and to championing the blessings of Catholic education.