The Raymond E. Mahoney Endowed Collection in Shakespearean Studies was established in 2001 through the estate of Raymond E. and Alice C. Mahoney of East Lansing, Michigan. Raymond served as acting state librarian for Michigan. He was a member of VISTA and had been a volunteer with the Office of Service to the Aging.

Raymond’s wife, Alice, who was born and raised in Maspeth, New York, served for two years as librarian at the Aquillar Branch of the New York Public Library. She then became a specialist in children’s literature for the New Lincoln School, an experimental school founded by John Dewey and operated by the Teachers College at Columbia University. She was a member of the East Lansing Older People Program, the Greater Lansing Garden Club, MSU Presidents Club, AAUW, and the Michigan Library Association.

As librarians, both Raymond and Alice knew the importance of library resources. In Michigan, their Mahoney Memorial Fund supports children’s library services and the use of libraries by all Michigan families. Workshops on children’s library services use children’s gardens to build reading skills, journal writing, and family literacy.

The Mahoney Collection supports the Summer Shakespeare program at Notre Dame, Shakespearean studies within the University’s Department of English, and the work of the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre.

The Mahoney estate has also funded a Prize endowment.