



Legacy

ESTATE PLANNING IDEAS FOR YOU FROM SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2009



PHOTO BY DENNIS DESILVA / STUDIO SEVEN

LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS BILL AND JANIS RAMSDEN HAVE MADE A GIFT BY WILL FOR SCHOLARSHIPS.

A MOTHER'S LOVE INSPIRES A LASTING LEGACY

Bill Ramsden, '78 has had a remarkably successful career. But, for Ramsden there were many bumps along the way that ultimately shaped his life. At age 5, when Bill was an energetic little boy, his body succumbed to the crippling effects of polio. The wonderful devotion and care of his mother, who provided daily therapy, led to a full recovery. "(It was) a minor miracle, thanks to my mother," he says.

But the polio had caused unforeseen damage. By age 9 the tender frontal stomach muscles had died, requiring a stomach muscle transplant followed by 10 months of healing in a body cast. Another devastating side-effect of the polio then struck in the form of scoliosis, causing a C-Curve in his spine. By his 10th birthday he had three consecutive bone graft spinal fusions with three years in a full body cast flat on his back. "Then they transferred me to a walking cast, which is kind of a body cast, but it rides on your hips. I then had to learn to walk for the fourth time." All those years "mom was my full-time nurse."

While he was going to grade school he was in leg braces from third through fifth grade. "Kids made fun of me, but I made it with the help



College of Arts and Sciences professor, Jerry Cobb, S.J. teaches students both inside the classroom and out, giving them the individual attention that SU is known for.

of my mother and family.” At home, “everybody treated me normal, no pity; taking me camping in a full body cast, things like that. Despite the sacrifices, everyone always smiled and had a good time.”

Ramsden grew up in Seattle and attended St. John’s Parochial School and Bishop Blanchet High School. Unable to participate in sports, he turned to the theater and fell in love with it. Every year he took to the stage with his high school theater group for performances at the Seattle Opera House.

“We did Broadway productions such as *Hello Dolly*, *Oliver* and others, with a full orchestra and I was part of it all—dancing, singing and performing.” After high school he helped form the St. John’s Players community theater group.

As he saw the dawning of the business computing age, Ramsden got interested in computer technology first in his youth at science fairs. He was hooked.

It was an interest he pursued in college. At Seattle Central Community College he graduated with a computer programming degree and certificate of computer operations. He then went on to Seattle University, where he majored in accounting and graduated with honors.

Following SU, he interviewed with Price Waterhouse and was immediately hired as a staff consultant for the management consulting division. His career took off and he made partner by age 36, one of the youngest to ever do so. During his career he headed up major projects for Swedish Hospital, the State of Alaska, City of Seattle and later

Intel and Medtronic.

It was during his days in Alaska that Ramsden met and fell in love with a charming lady named Janis, whom he married in 1990. “She really supported me. I traveled so much; she was so good about it. I could not have done without her, not for one minute.”

Facing retirement following his extraordinarily successful 31-year career and reflecting upon his life, his thoughts turned to his roots and his mother: “Without her I would never have made it to where I am today.” His mother’s love mirrored that first letter of St. John: “Our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active.”

To honor his mother and remember her for the kind of person she was and how much of a difference she made in

his life, Bill and Janis set up an endowed scholarship fund in his mother’s name. He wants “each recipient to feel the touch of his mother’s kind hand and heart through Seattle University.” They have also provided a gift by Will for their scholarship fund, which will significantly increase the number of students who can receive the scholarship in the future.

The Rosemary Laura Ramsden Endowed Scholarship provides financial assistance for deserving students in the Albers School of Business and Economics, the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education or the College of Nursing.

Bill Ramsden, Seattle University says thank you for the love that so mirrors your mother’s, a love that will touch the lives of young men and women for years to come.



Students in the College of Nursing are among those eligible for financial assistance through the Rosemary Laura Ramsden Endowed Scholarship.

Look What a Difference A Gift by Will Can Make

As more than 1,800 undergraduates and graduates received their degrees at Commencement this past June, many surely reflected on the determination and hard work it took to get there. And most of them shared this in common: they wouldn’t have made it to graduation without the generous financial support provided by SU scholarship donors. With more than 90 percent of all incoming freshmen receiving non-loan financial aid, and approximately 75 percent of all undergraduates receiving scholarships, it’s clear that scholarship support remains a top priority for the university.

One way you can help is by including a gift for scholarship support in your will. You can leave a legacy that will “pay it forward” for years to come.

You may think that a charitable gift is out of reach in these economic times. The truth is that a little careful planning today makes it possible to do more in the future to help those you love including family, friends and Seattle University.

The most frequent gifts made in a will or trust include:

A Fixed Bequest: This is the gift of a fixed dollar amount to a family member, friend or Seattle University.

A Specified Percentage: Many people divide their estate by percentages, leaving a specific percentage such as 10 percent or 20 percent to be divided among a named list.

A Residual Gift: Specific bequests are often given to family members and the remainder of the estate is passed on to Seattle University.

Gift in Trust: There are a number of appropriate ways to leave a gift in trust. For example, a trust can provide a surviving family with income for life with the remainder going to Seattle University after the death of the survivor. Alternatively, a trust may provide income to Seattle University for a prescribed number of years with the remainder ultimately going to a family member.

Alumni and friends who include gifts to Seattle University in their wills or trusts are recognized as members of the university’s Legacy Society. The Legacy Society honors the thoughtful alumni and friends who have planned for future generations of Seattle University students through: bequests by will, gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, lead trusts and gifts of life insurance and retirement plans. Legacy Society

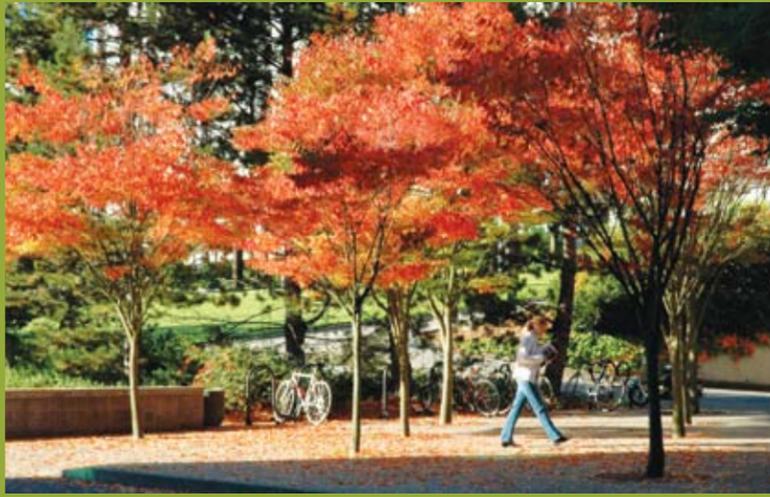


Sample Bequest Language

I give to Seattle University, a Washington non-profit corporation, headquartered in Seattle, Washington, the sum of \$_____ (or _____% of my estate; or the property described herein) to be used for _____ (specify the purpose).

members will be listed in the winter issue of the Seattle University Magazine. Please let us know if you have included Seattle University in your estate plans so we may list you as a Legacy Society member.

For more information on how you can leave a lasting legacy, please contact our gift planning office at (206) 296-6962 or e-mail orrj@seattleu.edu.



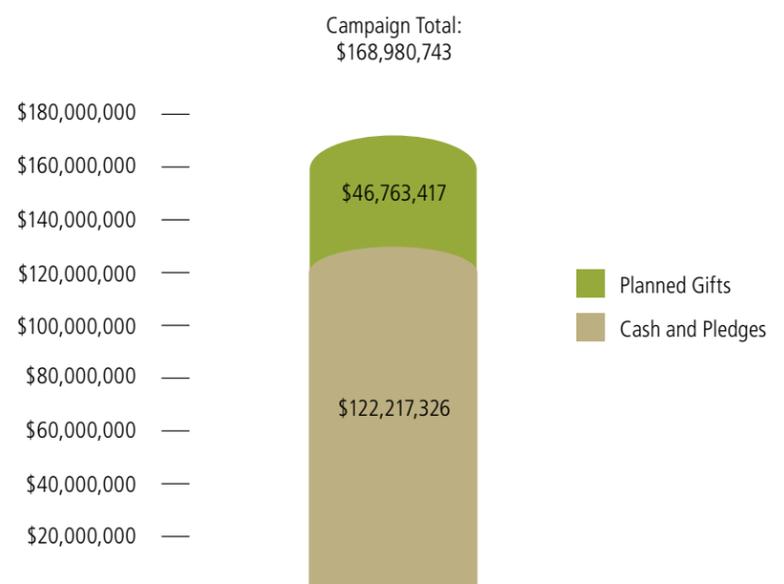
Thank You for the Difference *You* Made!

During The Campaign for Seattle University: *For the Difference We Make* more than \$43 million was raised for scholarships, allowing the university to create 62 new endowed scholarship funds. Think of the impact that these new scholarship funds can make by opening the door to hundreds of bright, talented students who may not have been able to afford a Seattle University education.

The university was pleased to welcome more than 165 new Legacy Society members during the campaign, increasing membership by more than 61 percent. By including the university in their estate plans to support students and their education, many generous alumni and friends invested in both their futures and the future for all of us, as SU students and alumni use their Jesuit education beyond the classroom and into the world. If ever our world needed inspired leaders, it's today.



Total Raised in the *For the Difference We Make Campaign* July 2003–June 2009



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We invite you to visit our planned giving website for more information on planned giving options, financial news, resources for professional advisors and more!

www.seattleugift.org



SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

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