



Significance

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING

Bill and Sue Osborne: Giving the gift of surprise

Ask Bill Osborne '67 about his recollections of Seattle Pacific, and he mentions the friendships formed in college and appreciates the intimate size of the classes at the University. "But I think my best memories are from when I met Susan," Bill said.

Susan Gantenbein Osborne '68, however, contends that Bill didn't seem to notice her at first. Every week, Sue and her roommate attended church at Westminster Chapel in Bellevue, Washington.

"Bill would drive a carload of students over to Westminster Chapel. That's how I first met him was on those drives ... but he always had a girlfriend on his arm!" Sue laughed. She was just a passenger in the backseat of his car.

On a church retreat in the fall of 1966, Bill and Sue began talking. "The spark kind of started there," Bill said. A week later, he asked her out for a date, although neither can remember what they did or where they went. Did they see the movie *Doctor Zhivago*, or was that a later date?

CONTINUED



Special education major Lillian Biddle was the recent recipient of an endowed scholarship set up by the Osbornes.



THINGS WE CAN COUNT ON



In these times of political, cultural, and economic uncertainty, it is nice to know that there are some things in life we can count on. From a Christian point of view, we can count on the forgiveness of sins and the

unconditional love of our heavenly Father. Many of us are also blessed to have family who love and accept us as we are, despite our many failings. I know I can also count on my two-year-old Labrador to greet me with a wagging tail and sloppy kisses whenever I come home!

One of the things we have been able to count on over the years at SPU is the encouraging investment performance of the Seattle Pacific Foundation. While there is no guarantee on how endowment or charitable trust investments will perform from year to year, the Seattle Pacific Foundation has achieved remarkable results when compared to economic benchmarks or the investment performance of other similar academic institutions.

In this issue of *Significance*, you will read about the use of a charitable remainder trust to provide annual investment income as well as a future gift to SPU. If you are considering a trust with SPU, you can rest assured that your investment will be in good hands with the Seattle Pacific Foundation.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at 206-281-2631 or msandlin@spu.edu.

Marlon Sandlin
Interim Director of Endowments and Gift Planning

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Bill graduated in 1967 with a degree in business administration. The two exchanged letters while Bill was at Coast Guard boot camp, and Sue completed her degree in English along with a teaching certificate. A year after Sue graduated, the couple married in 1969.

Bill went on to have a successful career in health care finance. Sue taught for four years and then stopped teaching to raise their two kids. In her 40s, Sue discovered a new passion with a job in her children's high school library. She returned to school to earn a master's degree in educational library media and worked as a school librarian for 17 years.

A few years ago, the Osbornes chose to include SPU in their estate plans and created two endowed scholarships close to their hearts — one to support Seattle Pacific's library; the other to fund teacher education scholarships. They decided to begin funding the education scholarship now to benefit current SPU students.

For special education major Lillian Biddle, the Osbornes' scholarship has made all the difference.

Last summer, Lillian traveled to Poland and the Czech Republic to take a month-long course on the Holocaust. "It was an incredible experience," Biddle said, "but I knew it was going to create some financial stress for me when I returned."

Biddle has worked at multiple jobs on and off campus while consistently earning a spot on the Dean's List as she's pursued a degree in elementary education with a certificate in special education.

But when she reviewed her student account charges in the fall, she was surprised to discover she was the recipient of the Bill and Sue Osborne Education Scholarship.

"It almost exactly matched the amount I needed to fill in from going on my study abroad program over the summer," Biddle

said. "I told my mom this was such a God thing to find out I got this money that I didn't know was coming to me. It was amazing and wonderful!"

In addition to their planned future gifts and endowments, the Osbornes checked into setting up a Charitable Remainder Unitrust with Seattle Pacific. After careful research, they had high confidence in the management and investment abilities of the Seattle Pacific Foundation.

"Establishing a Charitable Remainder Unitrust with Seattle Pacific University means we are able to withdraw our investment funds from a volatile stock market at a reduced tax liability and move the money into the trust," Bill said. "Over time, the principal contribution to the trust will provide us with a continuous, predictable income that increases as the invested funds grow." The charitable remainder trust will also provide additional



Sue and Bill enjoying retirement life at Friendsview in Newberg, Oregon.

funds to both of their chosen endowments in the future.

Bill and Sue, who will be celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary in June, are happy to provide a legacy to help future generations of SPU students like Lillian Biddle. To date, seven students have benefitted from the Osbornes' endowed scholarships.

"It's a win-win for us and SPU," Bill said.

— Shelly Ngo, editor, *Response* magazine and *SPU Stories*

PHILANTHROPY SPOTLIGHT

Ruth Harrison: An Expression of Thankfulness



When Ruth Harrison established a Charitable Remainder Trust in 1991, there were most likely many benefits of doing so that she found attractive. She would benefit from professional investment management of the trust's assets. She would receive an income tax deduction. And she would receive income for the rest of her life.

Austin and Justin: Gratitude Times Two



“

Before an exam, if I'm feeling nervous, I'll have a professor pray for us. It takes the weight off our shoulders so we can focus and do well. It's a gift to be able to pray in class.

”

— JUSTIN FREEMAN

Four years ago, when the exact moment of Austin Freeman's 18th birthday had arrived — during a

round of golf — he began walking around like an old man, while reminding his “younger” brother Justin that he was still a child. Ten minutes later, Justin turned 18 and the gloating was over.

All kidding aside, these identical twins, now in their senior year at SPU, are the closest of friends. Both are fine scholars with multiple Dean's List appearances and numerous other awards, both business majors, both devout Christians. And they also have this in common: both know they wouldn't be at SPU if not for the generosity of the University's donors.

“I'll have a good start to my career because I won't be as indebted as most students are after they graduate,” said Austin. “I don't take it for granted. I want to give back as soon as I can.” Justin added, “Not just Austin and I, but most other students here as well, rely on the scholarships that donors provide. It's a really big deal.”

Because their mother, Joey Freeman, is an assistant professor of nutrition at SPU, they receive an employee tuition discount. But that alone would not have been sufficient. Austin was also awarded the President's Scholar Award, and Justin, who transferred to SPU his sophomore year, was awarded the Transfer Honors Scholarship and the Transfer Select Scholarship.

“The thought of enrolling two children at the same time in a private Christian university was financially daunting,” said Professor Freeman. “But the generous employee tuition discount benefit, coupled with merit scholarships, made it possible. My husband and I extend our sincere gratitude to the donors who have contributed to our sons' exceptional educations!”

Austin and Justin also agree on their favorite professor (besides their mother, of course): Associate Professor of Political Science Caleb Henry. “He is an absolute genius,” said Austin, with Justin concurring. “His lectures are so captivating and interesting.” The feeling is mutual. “Whenever I saw a Freeman on my roster,” said Dr. Henry, “I knew it would be a good class.”

Austin and Justin give all their professors high marks, citing both their academic excellence and their deep faith. “Before an exam, if I'm feeling nervous,” said Justin, “I'll have a professor pray for us. It takes the weight off our shoulders so we can focus and do well. It's a gift to be able to pray in class.”

Justin notes how much SPU has to offer, even beyond rigorous academics: “SPU has so many options. Intramural sports — I've done volleyball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, flag football, pretty much all the sports SPU offers.” He also joined the book club.

Austin was a resident advisor for two years. One night at the end of his junior year he was running low on energy because “I was giving it my all.” But he sensed God saying to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” “There's nothing better than that.”

“The donors should realize how massively blessed we are to have their support,” said Justin. Adds Austin, “These four years have been incredible, and they wouldn't have happened without the donors. God bless them.”

In fact, Ruth set up her trust so that at her death the trust would then pay an income to her daughter, Phyllis Middleton, for Phyllis's lifetime as well. But perhaps one of the most attractive features to Ruth was that when the trust came to an end, it would distribute the remaining balance to charitable causes that meant a lot to her.

While Ruth did not personally have a relationship with Seattle Pacific, she witnessed the positive experience her grandson, Scott Anderson '85, had known as a student, and chose to express her gratitude by leaving the remaining balance of her trust to SPU, as well as to another beloved local charity, Seattle Children's Hospital.

When Phyllis passed away in 2021, Ruth's trust came to an end and distributed a significant gift to SPU that is currently providing much-needed financial assistance to students and supporting critical programs. Ruth's legacy of support for Seattle Pacific will last for many years to come.

Pictured left: Ruth Harrison with her daughter, Phyllis Middleton.

NATIONALLY RANKED — Seattle Pacific continues to be recognized as a “Best National University” by *U.S. News & World Report*.



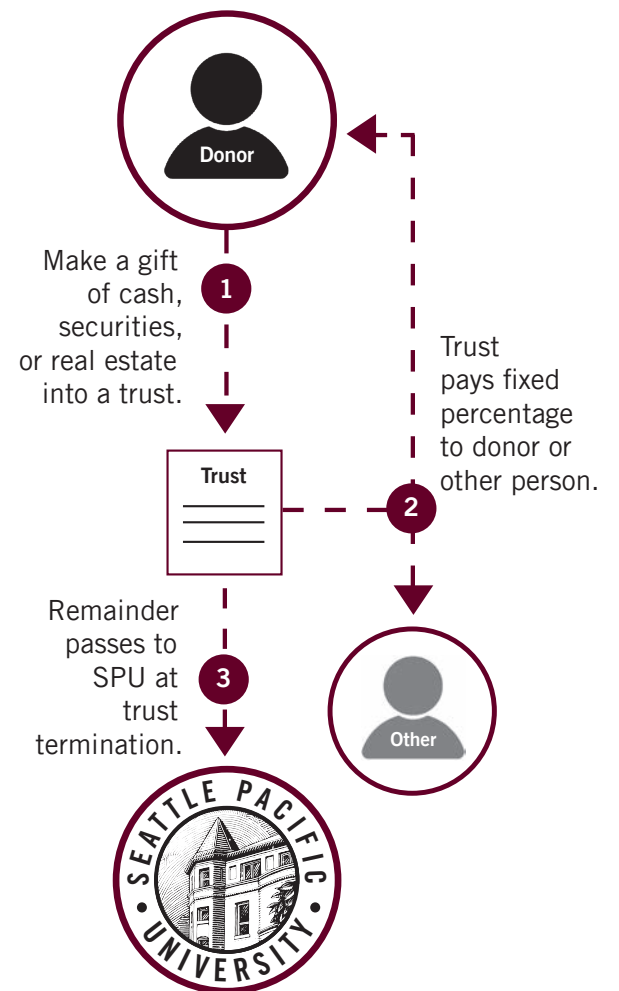
Benefits of an SPU Charitable Remainder Trust

A Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) can provide several benefits for those who need an income stream to meet their own financial needs and want to pass their trust assets on to charity in the future.

- A CRT with Seattle Pacific can be funded with many types of assets, including cash, stock, real estate, and even business interests.
- An interest in real estate or a business may be placed into a CRT rather than its full value. This way you can keep part of the property value to reinvest or pass on to family as an inheritance.
- Trust income may be paid monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually.
- You receive an income tax charitable deduction at the time you fund the trust. Also, you avoid capital gains tax when transferring appreciated securities held more than one year or real estate to a CRT.
- Our professional gift-planning representatives will work with you and your advisers to design your trust, arrange for the drafting of your trust document, and handle all the logistics of transferring your property to the trust.
- The Seattle Pacific Foundation provides expert investment management and serves as trustee of our CRTs, with no annual management fee.
- You have the satisfaction of planning a future gift to SPU to establish a permanent scholarship endowment, fund an existing endowment, or support another University initiative. Depending on the size of the trust, additional charities besides SPU may be named as remainder beneficiaries.

For more information, contact **Marlon Sandlin, interim director of endowments and gift planning**, at 206-281-2631 or giftplanning@spu.edu, or visit our website at legacy.spu.edu.

How a Charitable Remainder Trust works



Join us **Wednesday, April 5**, for Seattle Pacific’s annual **Giving Day** — an annual fundraising event to raise support for the areas and programs at SPU you love.

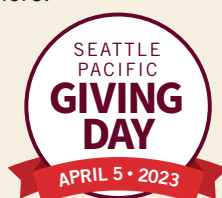
One day: For 24 hours, the SPU community joins together online.

One purpose: Donations on Giving Day support student scholarships, SPU departments and programs, Students in Crisis Fund, SoulCare, Athletics, and so much more.

One incredible impact: All funds raised help our students and campus community thrive. Gifts of all sizes add up to make an incredible impact.



LEARN MORE AT
givingday.spu.edu



To request our **Gift Planning Guide**, contact the Office of Endowments and Gift Planning at giftplanning@spu.edu.



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