Q: Describe your experience at Stritch.

(Bob) The thing that struck me while I was a student at Loyola was the overall friendliness I encountered. Everybody wanted to be helpful to me and my classmates. Though I was not Catholic, I appreciated the Jesuit leaders-in-service theme that went along with our education.

Q: Why have you included Loyola in your estate plans?

(Pam) Loyola helped us to get to where we are today. It had a very positive effect on our family, and when we came back for the class reunion last September, we were impressed by how the school has grown. It has expanded in such a positive manner, and we were really captivated by the students we met. We know that by giving this gift, we can help others even beyond our lifetimes.

Q: What are your hopes for the estate gift?

(Bob) Our gift is set up primarily to support scholarships for students who demonstrate financial need. We have indicated that when possible, we would like special consideration to be given to students with a military affiliation. If there is a low demand for scholarships in a given year, we trust the University to use the money where needed most.

Q: Why do you feel it is important to support the school?

(Bob) Whether we realize it or not, we all succeed on the shoulders of others who have supported us in the past, and that should provide us all with a sense of responsibility to those that follow us.

Dr. Munson is a retired U.S. Air Force pilot and physician. He and Pam married in 1973, and she worked at Stritch as a medical technologist when Bob studied there in the early 1980s. They have designated a significant gift to Loyola’s Stritch School of Medicine in their estate plans to support student scholarships. They live and perform extensive volunteer work in Colorado.

LEGACY SOCIETY

Society of the Shield

Loyola’s legacy society honors and recognizes alumni, friends, and parents who have generously supported any program at Loyola University Chicago through their estate plans or by making a deferred gift, such as a charitable remainder trust or gift annuity. For more information about membership, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at 800.424.1513 or e-mail giftplanning@LUC.edu.
A GIFT (ANNUITY) THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

A charitable gift annuity, as the name suggests, is part gift—a contribution of money or property to Loyola—and part annuity—an arrangement where the University agrees to pay your designated annuitant(s) fixed payments for life.

This annuity concept is familiar to many who remember what it was like before the advent of IRAs and 401(k)s. In those days, most people could count on a comfortable old age only if they “did it themselves.” Commercial annuities were sold as a way to accomplish individual retirement programs; people deposited money with a company in exchange for the assurance that they would never run out of income.

In this respect, a gift annuity is not so different from those commercial annuities. In exchange for a sum of money transferred to Loyola by a donor, Loyola agrees to pay the designated annuitant(s)—usually the donor or the donor and a spouse—a set annuity for life. These payments are backed by the full assets of the University. As with a commercial annuity, a portion of the annual payment—sometimes a substantial portion—is tax-free over the annuitant’s life expectancy as a return of investment.

But here the similarity with a commercial annuity ends. As the name implies, a gift annuity is also part gift. When the last beneficiary has run out of income.

Example: John and Mary, both 75, make a gift of $25,000 in return for an annuity of $1,250 per year as long as either of them lives. The gift generates a current income-tax deduction of $9,237. A portion of the annual income is tax free. For the remainder of their life expectancies, $961 of the $1,250 annual payments John and Mary receive will be tax free.

A gift annuity also offers the opportunity to reduce capital-gain tax when long-term appreciated property is used to fund it. And the reduced amount of tax that is payable can be spread over the donor’s life expectancy.