MAKING THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME POSSIBLE

Helping others has always been intrinsic to Amy Karnehm. She grew up in a family that always did what they could to give back to those in need. They also happen to be lifelong Ohio State fans.

When Amy’s stepfather, Richard (Dick) Wood, needed specialized care for his acute myeloid leukemia (AML), they turned to the experts at The Ohio State University James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute. Amy and her mother were beyond grateful for the skillful and compassionate care that gave them extra time with Dick.

To honor her stepfather’s memory and help other patients with AML, Amy decided to designate a percentage of her will to help fund AML research. This type of gift allows her to make a significant contribution without affecting assets during her lifetime.

“We were blessed with some outstanding doctors while my stepfather was being treated, and we’re excited by the research they are continuing,” Amy says. “I love the fact that my gift will memorialize my stepfather and help others with AML.”

In 2019, Amy brought her dog, Candi, to Ohio State’s Veterinary Medical Center Neurology Service for an MRI to investigate a detached right retina and left eye strabismus (crossed). The veterinary neurologists diagnosed Candi’s unique condition and established a treatment plan for her.

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—AMY KARNEHM
“I have been very happy with the support and care Candi has received,” Amy says. “I am so blessed to have the veterinary team in place that I do—their primary concern is her quality of life. She’s exceeding everyone’s expectations.”

Amy had not previously contacted Ohio State about her gift to AML research because she assumed the university did not need to be informed. After discussing her gift with a member of the Ohio State Advancement team, Amy learned that she should be able to establish endowments for both her stepfather and Candi.

By making a gift through her will, Amy is able to make a bigger difference than she ever thought possible.

“I never imagined that I would have the financial means to make a gift that will have a direct and meaningful impact on others for years to come,” she says. “Leaving a gift through my will makes it simple and possible for me to achieve this dream.”

**Living a Generous Life**

Why do you give? Do you want to make a real difference? Is your generosity a reflection of your values, or a way to inspire others to give? Whatever the reason you support Ohio State, it is clear you believe in our mission.

Because of your connection to Ohio State, it is natural that you would like our land-grant mission to continue well into the future. How? By making a future gift as part of your legacy.

**CREATE YOUR LEGACY AT OHIO STATE**

You can continue your generosity long after your lifetime. Some options include:

- **Percentage giving.** Through your will, you can designate percentages of your estate as you see fit. For example, designate 5% of your total estate to The Ohio State University Foundation, while leaving 95% to loved ones.

- **Blended giving.** Give an outright gift of cash or other assets today, combined with a future gift, such as naming The Ohio State University Foundation in your will.

- **Beneficiary designation.** A simple form is all it takes to name The Ohio State University Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets, life insurance policy or donor advised fund.

Like Amy, you can make a bigger impact than you imagine through a legacy gift to The Ohio State University Foundation. Contact the Office of Estate and Gift Planning at giftplan@osu.edu or 614-292-2183 to discuss the impact you can make at Ohio State.
You do not have to be an expert to create a successful estate plan. All you need are four essential documents. The Office of Estate and Gift Planning has helped many supporters like you use their estate plans to support Ohio State students and programs. We would be honored to help you, too.

1. **Last will and testament and/or trust**—Controls how your assets, such as money and property, are distributed after your lifetime. Without a will, the state where you live decides what happens to your assets. Trusts allow you to make special arrangements for the management of your assets for yourself and others, such as sheltering assets for a surviving spouse or benefiting heirs or your favorite nonprofits.

2. **Durable power of attorney for finances**—Names a person who will have the legal right to handle financial matters on your behalf if you are unable to do so.

3. **Durable power of attorney for health care**—Also known as a health care proxy, this document addresses all medical treatment. It names one or more individuals you trust to make medical decisions on your behalf if you are incapacitated.

4. **Living will/advance directive**—Documents your wishes regarding life-sustaining care.

**Free Resource**

Because you are an important member of the Buckeye family, we want to give you a tool that can help you organize your assets and plan ahead. Use the enclosed reply card to request your copy of *Estate Planning You Can Do at Home* and see the three essential steps for creating your estate plan.
We know that your decision to support Ohio State comes from the heart. A bonus is that your gift may also qualify for a tax break this year when you itemize deductions on your federal income tax return. Following are a few ways to give back this year that may surprise you:

**IRA DISTRIBUTION**
- **If you are 59½ or older,** you can take a distribution from your IRA and then make a gift to The Ohio State University Foundation without penalty. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the amount.
- **If you are 70½ or older,** you can give any amount up to $100,000 per year from your IRA directly to The Ohio State University Foundation. You will not pay income taxes on the transfer. If you are 72 or older, you can use this transfer to satisfy your required minimum distribution.

**APPRECIATED STOCK**
You may enjoy two tax benefits with a gift of appreciated stock: Avoid paying taxes on the appreciated value, and qualify for an income tax charitable deduction based on today’s market value, when you itemize.

**DONOR ADVISED FUND**
Contribute to a donor advised fund and enjoy a tax savings on that amount when you itemize.