

# Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision

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The University of Southern Indiana is a comprehensive public university in Evansville, Indiana. Approximately 9,000 students are enrolled in academic programs in business, liberal arts, nursing, health professions, science, engineering, and education. Selected graduate degree programs serve persons in professional and technical studies. More information is available on the web at USI.edu.

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*“We drink from wells we did  
not dig; we are warmed  
by fires we did not kindle.”*



Cloedeen G. and Frank F. McDonald Sr.

In the fall of 1968, Dr. David L. Rice, president emeritus of the University of Southern Indiana, and Byron C. Wright, vice president emeritus for Business Affairs and Treasurer, met with Mayor Frank F. McDonald Sr. in his office in downtown Evansville. Mayor McDonald was an avid supporter of the young campus and had a profound conviction that the University would be a tremendous benefit for the City of Evansville and the State of Indiana. He often referred to it as “an industry without a smokestack.”

The mayor’s support was key to the University’s success and Dr. Rice and Mr. Wright visited regularly with him to discuss issues affecting higher education on the Evansville campus. At the end of this particular meeting, Mayor McDonald said, “You will need private gifts to help make that place a success. Folks around here will not want to send their hard-earned money out of town, so I suggest you establish a foundation to benefit our University.” He then opened his wallet and pulled out two \$100 bills. “Here is \$100 from me and \$100 from my wife to begin that foundation.”

Dr. Rice then approached Indiana State University President Alan C. Rankin about creating a foundation, and received further encouragement. In seeking approval from his trustees, Dr. Rankin noted that the establishment of a foundation in Evansville was important. He emphasized Mayor McDonald’s

point that Evansville-area donors would give more enthusiastically to an Evansville organization. Because the Evansville campus did not have the necessary staff, Dr. Rankin also offered the assistance of the foundation in Terre Haute to help begin this effort.

Frank McDonald had unusual foresight for Evansville and for the University of Southern Indiana. To ensure that we are reminded of that vision, each year the University of Southern Indiana Foundation publishes *Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision*. The inaugural edition in 2008 commemorated the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Foundation.

Mayor McDonald’s vision for the University and for the USI Foundation, as well as his active work on behalf of these institutions, serves as witness to what great things can be accomplished with collaboration, cooperation, and wise leadership. Frank McDonald’s efforts to ensure the establishment of the institution in 1965 have earned him the title of “founding father.”

Those featured in this volume made a decision to support the mission of the University with their financial resources. Through their stories readers have an insight into the individuals who shared the conviction that they must “kindle the fire” so future generations will know warmth.

Dear Friends,

In 2012 the City of Evansville marked its 200th birthday and this year is the bicentennial anniversary of the town of New Harmony, Indiana. Next year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the University of Southern Indiana and, in 2016, the State of Indiana will be 200 years old. These four anniversaries are inextricably linked in time, but also in the lives of so many individuals who were sources of positive change and growth. Without involvement, without personal sacrifice, without a deep sense of the common good, these anniversaries could not be celebrated.

This annual volume—our seventh—is meant to keep before us the faces of those generous people who have provided a legacy for us, and those who are planning a legacy for future generations. We need to be reminded that literally thousands of individuals have paved a smoother way for us and we in turn are encouraged to continue that cycle of generosity.

In this edition you will see our effort to highlight University friends who have been and are an integral part of New Harmony in this its bicentennial year. As Dr. Donald E. Pitzer, USI professor emeritus of history and director emeritus, USI Center for Communal Studies, stated so beautifully in *New Harmony Then & Now*, “New Harmony has spanned an impressive spectrum of human endeavor that continues to connect it vitally with the wider world and to attract national and international attention. Ever since the days of its Harmonist and Owenite founders, in the early nineteenth century, this little town has been an arena for wrestling with the ultimate universal questions of life and existence, of spirituality and science, and of the secret of happiness.”

The University of Southern Indiana and its Center for Communal Studies continues to be a positive influence in New Harmony, the City of Evansville, the Hoosier State and, through its online presence, the world. We congratulate New Harmony and salute those friends featured this year. We are grateful for their willingness to work for the greater good and to make our part of the world a better place for our children and our children’s children. Every milestone anniversary allows us to remember our history but reminds us to focus on the future.

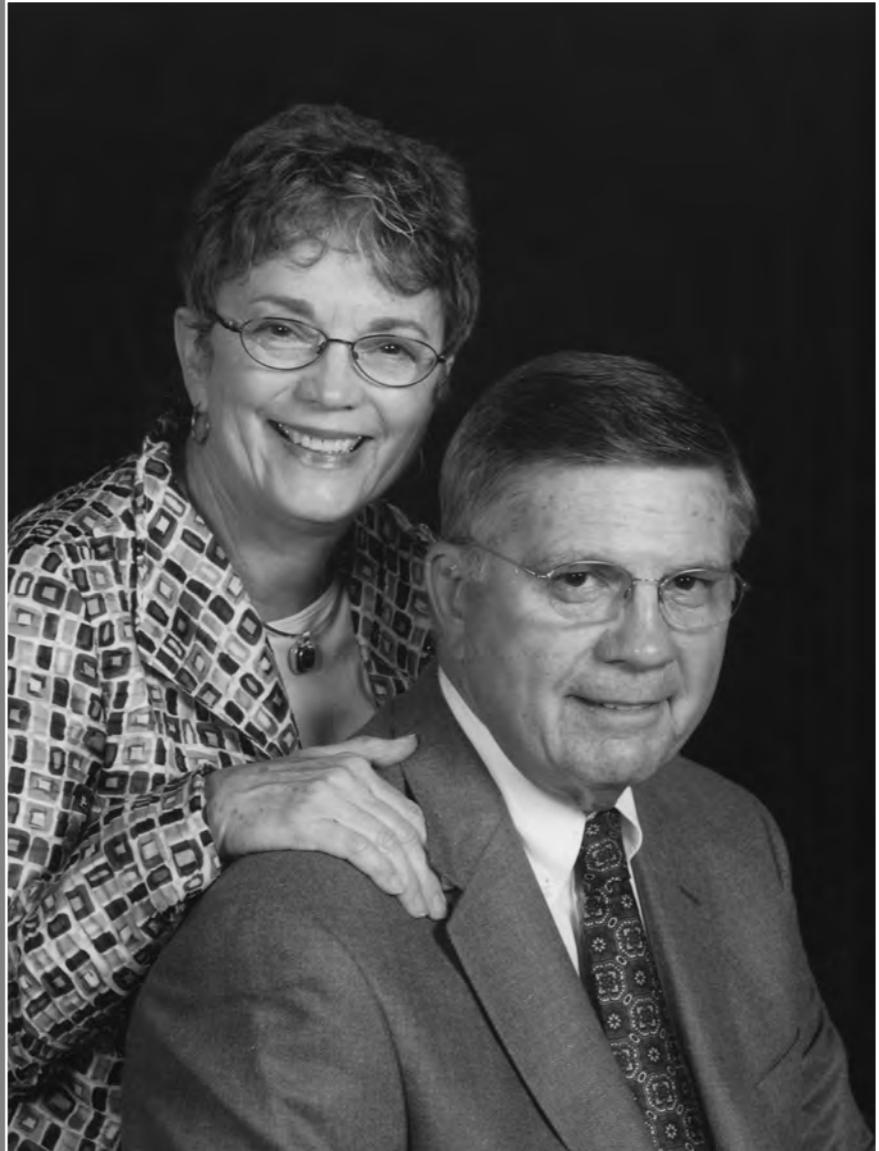
Sincerely,



David A. Bower  
Director of University Development  
President, USI Foundation  
October 1, 2014



*The Arps were  
early builders of  
USI community*



## Larry W. and Linda M. Arp

Larry and Linda Arp were among the early educators who instilled excellence and community at the University of Southern Indiana. Dr. Arp's appointment as business faculty brought them to Evansville in 1972, just seven years after USI's founding.

Dr. Arp earned a bachelor's degree at University of Northern Iowa, where he played scholarship varsity football. He earned a master's degree at Adams State College in Colorado and a doctorate at Utah State University-Logan. Mrs. Arp's undergraduate work was at Wayne State University in Nebraska and she earned a master's degree at Adams State.

The Arps were teaching in Las Vegas public schools when Dr. Arp was recommended for the USI opportunity. Mrs. Arp interviewed with the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation the day after they arrived in Evansville, and for the next 40 years, she was an EVSC teacher and media and library specialist.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Arp are active USI boosters in the Varsity Club, USI Retirees and any group that seeks to promote USI excellence. "USI has matured the way we anticipated. There were opportunities to grow with the institution," said Dr. Arp, who served as chair of Information Systems and Business Education, helped establish the Computer Information Systems program and organized the Distance Education program. A leader in computer information systems, he served on the Indiana Advisory Council for Business Education and was Indiana's representative to the North Central Education Association. He also served four years as USI's director of Athletics. He retired in 2000 as professor emeritus of business education.

The couple established the Larry W. Arp Endowed Business Scholarship, available to a junior or senior business student, with preference given to a student athlete or business education major. They are building the scholarship endowment and have made estate-planning arrangements to provide significant additional funding.

Dr. Arp's philanthropy tutelage came from faculty during his undergraduate years who "preached" getting involved. "We don't have children and there are lots of needs in the University," he said. "Hopefully we can add to the University."

*Mrs. Baker's  
family  
relationships  
inspired her  
generosity*



## Alma Schulien Baker

Alma Schulien was a strikingly beautiful secretary on a military base in Fort Wayne, Indiana, who captured the heart of widower Paul Baker, a career Army officer. Before he was posted in Fort Wayne, Mr. Baker was stationed in China where his first wife and daughter died of a fever. He and his son returned to the states for his Fort Wayne assignment. Though there were political tensions with China, Mr. Baker persevered for years to have his family's remains released from China and buried in his native Warrick County. Sadly his son John, who followed him into the military, was killed in World War II's Battle of the Bulge.

Mr. Baker was 14 years older than Alma, and they had a "lovely marriage" according to Paul Baker's nephew, Bruce Baker, a former University of Southern Indiana trustee and longtime USI Foundation Board member. After 23 years of military service, Paul Baker retired from the Army as a full colonel. The couple, who had no children together, were living in Jacksonville, Florida, when Mr. Baker died at age 79 in 1973. Later, Mrs. Baker became best friends with Harold Ashley, a successful Jacksonville businessman. Though Mr. Ashley wanted to marry the vivacious widow, she simply preferred to remain "Mrs. Paul Baker."

The Baker-Ashley friendship lasted over 20 years as the couple enjoyed travel, fine dining, tennis, golf and collegiate sports. Mr. Ashley was in the President's Club at University of Florida and was an athletic booster for Jacksonville University. Through Bruce Baker, they learned more about the University of Southern Indiana and remembered the USI Foundation in their estate plans.

During USI's first capital campaign, Mr. Ashley made a \$100,000 gift for Presidential Scholarships. In his will, he also created a trust that established the Alma Schulien Baker Scholarship Endowment after her death. Other relatives will benefit from the trust before the principal comes to the USI Foundation.

Through the conferral of honorary doctorates, Mrs. Baker and Mr. Ashley were recognized for their generosity to the University.

*Betty Boetticher  
lived life to  
the fullest*



## Betty Boetticher

Betty Lou Spry Boetticher led an exciting life in California during the glory days of Hollywood. Her husband, Tom Boetticher, was an Evansville native who worked for Howard Hughes' aircraft company. Mrs. Boetticher, a native of Evanston, Illinois, met her husband on a blind date when they went dancing at Chicago's Palmer House before World War II. They lived in California for 53 years, but they visited Mr. Boetticher's hometown often to see family and friends, especially Mr. Boetticher's mother Brunhilde, who lived in Newburgh. Mr. Boetticher's family had owned Boetticher and Kellogg wholesale hardware business, located for many years at the corner of Fulton Avenue and Riverside Drive, now the Evansville Entertainment District near Tropicana Casino.

After Mr. Boetticher's death in 1994, Mrs. Boetticher moved to Evansville. A gregarious woman who loved to travel and socialize, she made many trips to major U.S. cities and to Harlaxton Manor, in Grantham, England.

Mrs. Boetticher became involved with the University of Southern Indiana when she decided to restore a metal mastiff, identical to one that stood guard over the Boetticher family plot at Oak Hill Cemetery from the late 1800s to 1946, when a relative had it removed. Her beloved mother-in-law was fond of the original dog and lamented its loss. Mrs. Boetticher purchased a similar sculpture and commissioned USI art instructor David Huebner to make repairs. After a five-year restoration, she had the dog installed at Oak Hill where it now stands guard. She dubbed it "Beowolf," a slightly different spelling from the literary warrior, and posed with Beowolf for a New Year's greeting card.

Mrs. Boetticher's interest in the arts led her to donate to the USI Art Collection two Black Forest wood carvings created in Austria in the 1870s. They depict the history of Evansville.

Mrs. Boetticher died in 2013 at the age of 97. She was the mother of Carl and Caryl.

*The Campbells  
lead at USI and in  
New Harmony*



## David R. and Vicki T. Campbell

David and Vicki Campbell moved to New Harmony, Indiana, after their daughter, Laura '05, graduated from high school in St. Louis and enrolled in the University of Southern Indiana. Mrs. Campbell grew up in nearby Mount Vernon where she met her husband, then a young businessman. They married in 1974 and followed his career in the grain and barge business to many locations. Ultimately, they came to New Harmony to be close to Laura. "We liked the town and David could manage his business almost anywhere," Mrs. Campbell explained. Mr. Campbell is now retired from DRC Transportation, Inc.

In 1999, the Campbells happened upon a quietly "might-be-for-sale" house in New Harmony and lived in a bed and breakfast while overseeing renovations to the handsome 1830s-era home. They immediately immersed themselves in community preservation and promotion. Mr. Campbell served 10 years on the New Harmony Town Board, with nine as president. They give leadership to the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board, New Harmony Theatre, Heritage Artisans Days, New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art and graciously open their home for USI and New Harmony events. A member and officer of the USI Foundation Board, Mrs. Campbell serves on the *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence* cabinet. She has proudly assumed the mantle of her late uncle, Bill Hitch, an early USI Foundation Board member.

The Campbells provide an annual \$5,000 scholarship to a USI student and they take joy in underwriting study-abroad experiences. Their generous *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence* gift includes support for the Teaching Theatre, annual programming, and the campaign's greatest needs.

"What propelled us to become involved in the University of Southern Indiana was Laura's experience. After she graduated from USI, she was so well prepared for her master's degree with a double major at Marymount College," her father explained. She is a mental health counselor in Fairfax, Virginia. The Campbells also have a son who lives in Evanston, Illinois, and another son who died in 1998.

The Campbells received the Special Recognition Award from the USI Alumni Association at Founders Day in 2014.

*Higher education  
benefitted when  
the Chadoins  
moved to  
Evansville*



## Don R. and Deborah G. Chaudoin

Louisville natives Don and Debbie Chaudoin met through their church, attended college and followed Mr. Chaudoin's career until they landed in Evansville in 1979. Mr. Chaudoin graduated from the University of Louisville. Mrs. Chaudoin became a kindergarten teacher after studying at University of Kentucky Community College and University of Louisville.

Mr. Chaudoin's entry into banking came as a result of a friendship with a parent of a child enrolled in Mrs. Chaudoin's kindergarten school. Impressed with Mr. Chaudoin's ability to develop relationships, the banker offered Mr. Chaudoin a position in his trust department where Mr. Chaudoin specialized in taxation issues. From that beginning, Mr. Chaudoin was recruited to Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati, Ohio, and then to Wachovia Bank with assignments in Atlanta, Georgia, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He worked with high-net-worth clients, and explained, "That is really where I got into philanthropy." From managing small scholarship trusts to designing multimillion-dollar-endowment gifts, he helped his clients give flight to their philanthropic interests while capturing taxation opportunities.

Needing to move closer to their aging parents in the Louisville area, the Chaudoins moved to Evansville where Mr. Chaudoin accepted a trust position at Citizens Bank. He found "satisfying" opportunities to work with clients interested in advancing higher education at all three postsecondary institutions in Evansville. Among his clients were Nick Carter, who funded Carter Hall at USI, and the trustees of the Robert and Elaine Pott Foundation, whose gift named the USI College of Science, Engineering, and Education. "It has been a real pleasure to see students, who might otherwise not have had the opportunity, graduate in engineering," he said.

Today Mr. Chaudoin manages the trust department at Ohio Valley Financial Group in Henderson, Kentucky. Mrs. Chaudoin left her teaching career to raise their three children—Adrienne, Chris and Nathan—but she still teaches. She and Mr. Chaudoin lead a children's Sunday school class at Crossroads Christian Church in Evansville.

A member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors, Mr. Chaudoin was inducted into the USI President's Circle in 2014.

*Serendipity  
brought the Drakes  
to a community  
they love*



## Dr. Dale and Kathy Drake

Dr. Dale and Kathy Drake are famously known as two of the characters portrayed in the long-running M\*A\*S\*H television series. The original book about M\*A\*S\*H was written by their friend Richard Hornberger, known as Booker. He autographed their book, saying, “This book was born the night you blew in.” He told them the book became a goal after watching the Drakes work together in Korea.

Mrs. Drake, from Montana, graduated as a registered nurse from Columbus School of Nursing in Great Falls. Dr. Drake was from Oklahoma and graduated from University of Oklahoma’s undergraduate and medical schools. Their military reserve obligations took them to a medical unit on the Korean War front. Dr. Drake’s first military assignment in Hot Springs, Arkansas, “was too good to last.” Next came orders for the Far East Command. When he arrived in Korea, the future Mrs. Drake had been there for 16 months, and had only four months left. “I knew I had to work fast,” he quipped.

After leaving Korea, Mrs. Drake was assigned to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C. The couple corresponded faithfully, and soon after Dr. Drake returned to the states they were married. Coming to Evansville was pure “serendipity.” Driving across the country they stopped in Evansville to visit a friend. They learned of St. Mary’s Medical Center expansion plans and moved to Evansville after Dr. Drake concluded a faculty commitment at University of Pennsylvania. He established an anesthesiology practice in Evansville, from which he is retired. He also taught medical students at both University of Evansville and University of Southern Indiana.

The couple often were called on for authenticity by the M\*A\*S\*H producers. They took their family to visit the set in Los Angeles. “We felt like we were right back in Korea,” Mrs. Drake said. “The stars Alan Alda and Loretta Swit treated us like we were the celebrities!”

The couple’s children—Michael, Susan and Erin—graduated from Evansville’s Mater Dei High School, which the Drakes support along with initiatives of Corpus Christi Catholic Church. The Drakes have a home at Solarbron Pointe Retirement Community adjacent to the University campus.

The Drakes’ son, Dr. Michael Drake, assumed his father’s anesthesiology practice. He and his wife Nancy support the Bachelor/Doctor of Medicine scholarships at USI.

*Doris Gibbs  
wanted broader  
educational  
opportunities  
for nurses*



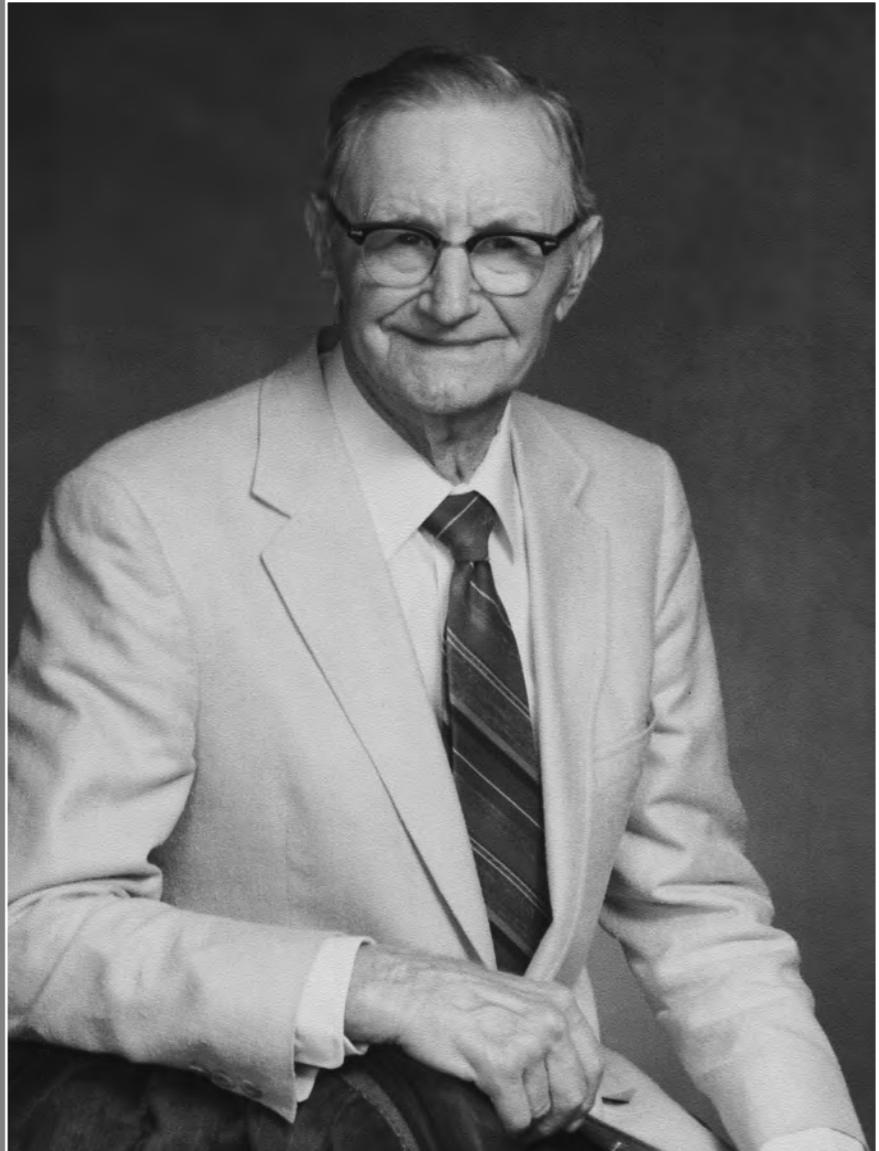
Doris A. Gibbs spent most of her career in nursing. When she graduated from Evansville's Reitz High School in 1929 she began work as a telephone operator. With advances in telephone technology and the advent of dial telephones there was less demand for operators, so she set her sights on a nursing career. She completed the nursing education program at Deaconess Hospital in 1934 and years later earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee.

For several years, she was a public health nurse in nearby Spencer County, Indiana. In the 1950s, she returned to Evansville and became a nursing supervisor at Deaconess Hospital. She was a member of the Deaconess Alumni Association and of the Methodist faith.

Believing that the availability of nursing education in Evansville contributed to the quality of nursing care for the southwestern Indiana region, Mrs. Gibbs remembered the USI Foundation in her will and specified that her gift be used for USI's nursing program. She died in 1999; her husband Carroll preceded her in death.

Today, Mrs. Gibbs would not have to travel to Tennessee for advanced nursing study. USI's nursing program not only serves southwestern Indiana as she envisioned but it also has a global influence in healthcare and nursing education. It serves over 1,000 students annually in a wide range of programs including bachelor's, master's, post-master's certificate and a doctorate in nursing practice. Year after year, the program's pass rate on state certification examinations is the best in Indiana. With the financial investment of donors such as Mrs. Gibbs, the nursing program and its reputation for excellence has been able to reach new heights.

*Arthur Karch  
planted a growing  
philanthropic seed*



A lifelong farmer, Arthur Karch knew that careful planting could yield impressive results. His gift to begin the USI Alumni Scholarship Endowment, in memory of his wife Thelma, may have been one of his most impressive efforts.

Mr. Karch lived and turned the soil on more than 200 acres on Evansville's east side near Angel Mounds State Park. He spent 75 years on the farm where he was born, retiring in 1977. His wife died in 1980.

In 1987, his accountant suggested that a charitable contribution might give him a tax advantage. He chose USI, where grandson Kurt Karch '85 and Kurt's wife Waverlyn Alexander Karch '85 had graduated. Mr. Karch had noticed in the *USI Magazine* that alumni wanted to begin a scholarship endowment. Arthur Karch and his son Glenn personally delivered a \$10,000 check to USI; an exciting start for the Alumni Scholarship Endowment. The fund has been enriched over the years with income from the sale of USI license plates through the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Today the endowment stands at nearly \$950,000 and has funded more than 600 grants and scholarships to students in need.

Grandson Kurt remembered his grandfather's generosity. "The little thing he did turned into something large." Kurt continues the family interest in agriculture with Beck's Hybrid Seed Company; his father Glenn, who died in 2009, was with Pioneer Seed Corn for 25 years. Waverlyn has worked for their church, Immanuel Lutheran, for 23 years. Arthur Karch's daughter, Gayle Karch Cook, is one of Indiana's most prominent philanthropists. She and her late husband Bill Cook founded the Cook Group in Bloomington and used their wealth to restore some of Indiana's finest historical treasures, including buildings at West Baden and French Lick resorts.

This fall, Allen Karch, Kurt and Waverlyn's son, enrolled at USI to pursue his interest in radio and television. An Evansville North High School graduate, he has received acclaim for vocal and theatrical performance, and will sing with USI's Chamber Choir.

Allen's great-grandfather, Arthur Karch, died in 1989 at age 87. The philanthropic seed he planted will help USI students forever.

*War hero Fred  
Keepes was  
a surprising  
and modest  
philanthropist*



## Harold “Fred” Keepes

Fred Keepes was “a very simple man,” according to his niece, Diana Koehne. “He had no car. He rented his home. He walked everywhere he went.” And he left around \$20,000 in total at the end of his life to several charities. “What a legacy he left...to know he wanted to do that sort of thing,” his niece said.

Mr. Keepes grew up in Newburgh, the third of six children. He lost his mother at an early age and never graduated from high school or married. He joined the U.S. Navy Reserves at 18 and liked it so much that he enlisted in the Army, then joined the Navy in 1958 and retired after 30 years of service. He was awarded medals for Korean Service, Vietnam Service, United Nations Service, National Defense and Combat Infantry, as well as three Bronze Service Stars and the Purple Heart. He was wounded twice, shot in the head and later in the chest. After his Navy discharge, he hoped to find employment at Indiana’s Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center, and moved to nearby Bloomfield. Although the job never materialized, he lived a satisfying life in the Bloomfield community, attending Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church and continuing his patriotism through the Fleet Reserve Association, American Legion and Combat Infantrymen’s Association.

Mr. Keepes died unexpectedly at age 77 in 2010. At his home, his niece and family members were surprised to find envelopes addressed to several charities with notes written for all those selected. He had saved his Social Security, military and combat-related compensation checks and endorsed them to benefit the charities. “They were ready to go, unmailed, on his dresser,” his niece said. They went to schools, hospitals, cemeteries, churches and others. The University of Southern Indiana Foundation was among those he remembered.

Mr. Keepes would be proud to know his family members have benefitted from his investment in USI. A great-nephew is a junior at USI, a great-niece will graduate in December after completing a USI internship at Crane and another great-nephew graduated as a USI Presidential Scholar.

*The Koehlers  
look beyond their  
generation*



## David and Nancy Sieben Koehler '93

Nancy Sieben Koehler '93 turned her University of Southern Indiana internship at Deaconess Foundation into a lifetime career, and met and married physician Dr. David Koehler in the process.

During her years at USI, Mrs. Koehler did it all: Homecoming Queen, Student Government Association officer, Delta Zeta sorority member and a volunteer in USI's first capital campaign. As a student employee in the Romain College of Business, she learned the importance of relationships with constituent groups and honed her writing and communication skills. She used those skills in her Deaconess internship, graduated with a bachelor's degree in communication, and was offered a position at Deaconess as annual giving coordinator. Three years later, at age 25, she was named executive director of the Deaconess Foundation. In two decades, she has led the Foundation to record growth, tripling the donor base and initiating new events and opportunities.

Two years ago, Mrs. Koehler was diagnosed with a rare form of spinal cord cancer and underwent treatment, buoyed by the enthusiastic support of her husband, children and friends. "It really brought things into focus for us," she said. "Supporting causes that have real value has become even more important to our family."

Recently Mrs. Koehler committed to a major gift for *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence*. Several years ago she included USI in her will. "I want people to see this and realize how important and easy it is to support USI after you are gone," she said.

Mrs. Koehler is a member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors and serves on the Alumni Major Gifts Committee. She also leads many civic groups including Youth Resources of Southern Indiana, Rotary Club of Evansville, Junior League of Evansville, the Vanderburgh Medical Alliance and the Women's Hospital Advisory Board. Her husband, Dr. Koehler, is a family practice physician who shares his wife's commitment to healthcare and community. They are a team, raising their three bright and busy sons, and dedicated to their professions.

*Irene McDonald  
was an early USI  
Foundation leader*



## Irene Coddington McDonald

In 1971, Irene McDonald was the first woman to be elected to the University of Southern Indiana Foundation Board of Directors. Though she came to the Foundation Board to complete her husband's term, she made her own mark on the board in her 25 years of service, including 12 years as vice chair.

Mrs. McDonald and her husband Douglas H. McDonald were parents of three children—Irene, Frances “Tanny” and Bruce. The McDonalds lived in Princeton, Indiana, where Mr. McDonald practiced law and was the longtime city attorney. He died in 1971 at age 62. Though the McDonalds lived out of town, they enjoyed coming to Evansville for arts performances and fine dining and were members of the Evansville Petroleum Club and the Kennel Club.

Their children endowed the Douglas H. and Irene C. McDonald Scholarship to benefit talented theatre and music students. Mrs. McDonald also specified gifts to the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and Deaconess Hospital in her will.

Her interest in music and theatre was amplified by her daughter Tanny's highly successful Broadway career. Tanny became involved in the USI-managed New Harmony Theatre, the only Actor's Equity Theatre in Indiana outside of Indianapolis, where she accepted starring roles in two productions in 1995. She also spread the word of the allure of New Harmony's summer theatre among her friends on Broadway.

Mrs. McDonald loved USI's development. On her departure as vice chair of the USI Foundation, she said, “I have always felt a close association with USI and watched it develop and grow into the fine University that it is. You will always have my support.”

Daughter Tanny echoed that sentiment after her mother's death at age 88 in 2000. “The University and the friends Mother made were very dear to her heart. We hope the scholarship fund in her name will continue her spirit.”

*The Nicholsons  
are enhancing a  
family heritage  
of leadership*



## Eric W. and Pamela Kalanick '89 Nicholson

Eric and Pam '89 Nicholson continue the philanthropy and involvement they began as a young married couple in Evansville. They met at the University of Evansville where Mr. Nicholson graduated in business and was an active member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Mrs. Nicholson graduated from the University of Southern Indiana after transferring there to study elementary education.

Before their careers took them to Medina, Ohio, and Hendersonville, Tennessee, they were involved in the Evansville community. Mr. Nicholson was alumni advisor to his fraternity and an Evansville City Councilman. Mrs. Nicholson was employed in the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation and was a United Way steering committee agency liaison. "The United Way concept always has been one of our philanthropic goals," Mrs. Nicholson said.

Mr. Nicholson started his career with Evansville-based Faultless Caster Company, and manages the Faultless Brand in Tennessee for the Colson Group of Chicago.

Mrs. Nicholson earned her master's degree at Akron University, and for over 15 years has been a teacher, reading specialist and administrator. Now a third-grade classroom teacher and team leader in Hendersonville, she is implementing Common Core district-wide.

The Nicholsons proudly supported the youth activities of their daughters, Ashley, Katlin and Emily. Mr. Nicholson coached runners and managed a youth soccer program for 14 years in Ohio. He also continues to serve his fraternity in chapter development, including at nearby Vanderbilt University. Now that their carpooling and coaching duties have waned, they have become golfers and serious gardeners.

Friends of USI Foundation will remember Eric as the son of the late Susie Nicholson, president emerita of the USI Foundation. He has proudly assumed his mother's seat as a director of Evansville's DeJong Family Foundation.

The Nicholsons like the opportunities USI provides for "elevating student opportunities in the region" and "helping students who might not otherwise be able to attend college". They believe that investing in USI is an excellent way to reinvest in the community. The Nicholsons have been members of *Reflections* Planned Giving Society since 2005.

*Mrs. Ogilvy  
ensured the  
future for  
nursing students*



## Marjoria Lucille Springer Ogilvy

Marjoria Springer Ogilvy was a careful manager of funds and a forward thinker. She honed her organizational skills as a school secretary at Evansville's Central High School and Howard Roosa School, retiring in 1974 to care for her first husband, Irvin "Chick" Springer, a well-known football player, coach and teacher. The couple were married 44 years before he died in 1984 at age 82. In 1992, she married widower Dr. Winston G. Ogilvy who had been vice president of Nutritional Product Development at Mead Johnson & Company in Evansville. He died in 2004 at age 85.

Mrs. Ogilvy died in 2010, as the longest living member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Evansville, which she joined in 1923. She was one of Trinity's most involved members, serving as trustee, a member of the administrative board and as finance and membership secretary. For 28 years, she also was treasurer of the Evansville Methodist District funds.

Mrs. Ogilvy volunteered as a Pink Lady at the former Welborn Hospital. Even there her accounting acumen was sought. For seven years she was the Pink Ladies' treasurer. She was national president of Sigma Alpha social and philanthropic sorority, won its Gamma Beta chapter "Golden Award," and held all chapter offices.

A lover of flowers and beautiful landscapes, Mrs. Ogilvy was active in the Brentwood and Evansville Garden Clubs and served as president of the Evansville Council of Garden Clubs. She also was chair of the Council's "Grunhouser Project" at Evansville State Hospital for seven years. Mrs. Ogilvy was a talented and gracious hostess and donated many silver serving pieces to the USI University Home.

She and Dr. Ogilvy established the Winston and Marjoria Ogilvy Scholarship at USI which provides a \$1,000 annual scholarship for students with financial need. She also created a charitable gift annuity which provided lifetime income to her, and now funds the Marjoria S. Ogilvy and Charles Irvin Springer Endowed Nursing Scholarship.

*The Parkers enjoy  
total immersion in  
New Harmony*



## Kent and Laurie Parker

Looking for a second home, Kent and Laurie Parker were drawn to New Harmony, Indiana. Mr. Parker is a sixth-generation Hoosier from Gibson County and had a “deep-rooted desire” to have an attachment to Indiana. Mrs. Parker moved frequently as a child, crisscrossing the country with her father’s career. As a couple, they leaned to Mr. Parker’s roots. “We wanted to allow our children to have a relationship with their grandparents.”

After looking at southern Indiana farmland, they acted on Mr. Parker’s father’s advice to be “in town” allowing Mrs. Parker to have neighbors while her husband traveled for business. Mr. Parker, a former USI Romain College of Business Executive in Residence, is an entrepreneur who has owned several successful global businesses.

He graduated in engineering from University of Evansville and later earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the prestigious Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College. Mrs. Parker graduated from Southern Vermont College. They met when both worked at Textron, an automotive business where she was in administration and he in engineering.

“We got excited about New Harmony because of philanthropist Jane Blaffer Owen. Her approach to charity, education and the arts struck a chord,” he said. Inspired by arts patrons Dr. George and Peggy Rapp, the Parkers have filled their home with the work of Indiana artists. “Prior to New Harmony, we were not collectors. We learned about art from our desire to be part of this community, and we have chosen to focus our philanthropy on New Harmony.” Mr. Parker is a member of the board of the USI Foundation and the Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation. Mrs. Parker says her husband “engages in complete immersion in any project, and it serves him well.”

In honor of New Harmony’s 200th birthday, the couple sponsored the award-winning Bicentennial House, building something permanent “for the next 100-year celebration.”

Their children are on the east coast. Ben is a senior at Boston College and Heather is a small business owner in New York City.

*Conserving  
and preserving  
New Harmony's  
heritage is  
Dr. Thurman Sala's  
commitment*



## Christa C. Mayer Thurman Sala

Dr. Christa Thurman Sala's devotion to the preservation of Historic New Harmony can be traced to her husband Dr. Lawrence S. Thurman who, beginning in the late 1950s became advisor and consultant on all matters Harmonist to Jane Blaffer Owen, benefactress and matriarch of contemporary New Harmony. Dr. Thurman was the first professional curator and director of Old Economy, Pennsylvania, where Father George Rapp took the Harmonist utopian society after leaving New Harmony in 1825. Dr. Thurman's involvement in New Harmony was critical.

Dr. Thurman Sala's artistic expertise is the field of textiles. She graduated from Finch College in New York and earned a Master of Arts from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University. She was the assistant curator of textiles at the Cooper-Union Museum in New York and then became curator and chair of the Department of Textiles for the Art Institute of Chicago, serving for 42 years. She developed a significant international textile collection that included a number of Harmonist textiles from Old Economy that were acquired by the Art Institute of Chicago in 1952.

She is in demand internationally as an independent textile historian, consultant, author and lecturer. In 2010, she was named curator emerita of the Art Institute of Chicago. Dr. Lawrence Thurman died in 1990. In 2001 she married Arsenio G. Sala. Mr. Sala worked with several world agencies and ultimately became executive director of the National Congress for Italio-Canadians in Montreal. Arsenio Sala died in 2013.

Through the years Dr. Thurman Sala has shaped Historic New Harmony's museum collections management policy and has advised on acquisitions. A generous donor to Historic New Harmony, her investment through *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence* will continue to support USI's future work in New Harmony. She established the Christa C. Mayer Thurman and Lawrence S. Thurman Preservation and Conservation Endowment for the preservation and conservation of decorative arts during the Harmonist settlement of 1814-25. She also has plans to donate her extensive textile library to USI. "Lawrence and I decided long ago that whatever pennies we had at the end, a portion thereof was to go to USI and Historic New Harmony," she said.

The University of Southern Indiana conferred an honorary doctorate on her in 2014.

*Robert Salm is  
grateful for his  
USI experiences*



After graduating from the University of Southern Indiana, Robert Salm '90 took group tennis lessons with USI Coach Keeley Porter at an Evansville fitness center. That experience led him to include the USI tennis program in his estate plans. "USI has opened doors for me professionally and I wanted to remember that. The tennis program seemed like a better idea than just an unrestricted gift," he said.

Like many students who commuted to USI and worked part-time, Mr. Salm was a Castle High School graduate who drove from home in Newburgh and worked part-time as a technician in an automotive repair shop. "USI was a natural selection for me," he said. He remembered that commuting from Newburgh became easier for him during his senior year, when the Lloyd Expressway between Warrick County and western Vanderburgh County opened.

All of Mr. Salm's career has been focused on meeting quality standards. After graduating from USI, he joined Red Spot in Evansville, then moved to Franklin Precision Industry in Franklin, Kentucky, an automotive supplier for Toyota and Nissan. Through his work with various employers, including some based in Japan, he has become a standards specialist and now is employed as a quality engineer at Time Warner Cable in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Mr. Salm oversees global industry compliance with ISO 9001 standards, and is active in the American Society for Quality. He has taken advanced study in history at Western Kentucky University and stays in touch with his former USI history professors.

He says his undergraduate education helped him understand how to "do things right." "Were it not for my degree, I would not be where I am today," he said, explaining that his USI studies in history and political science taught him to communicate clearly and understand geography and culture.

A member of *Reflections* Planned Giving Society, he said, "My estate gift may be a unique way to give, and it is a small way to pay it back. I spent lots of time on the USI tennis courts, and tennis is a great sport."

*For the  
Schonbergers, it is  
“all about family”*



## Barry K. and Angie V. Schonberger

Barry Schonberger came to USI in 1974 as USI's first full-time director of Student Activities. The Minnesota native met and married his wife, Angie Voelker, a Tell City, Indiana, native and art teacher. Together they raised a son and daughter, now building their own careers, and built "family" among USI students.

As a young administrator, Mr. Schonberger said he once thought USI might be a stepping stone to another university. "And then you find that what you are looking for is here: new challenges, wonderful folks...real family," he said.

Mr. Schonberger played key roles in developing student housing and activities which create 'home away from home' for students. "Many of us wanted fuller student life. We recognized that our students were making tremendous sacrifices. They were going to school, working and still making time to be involved," he said.

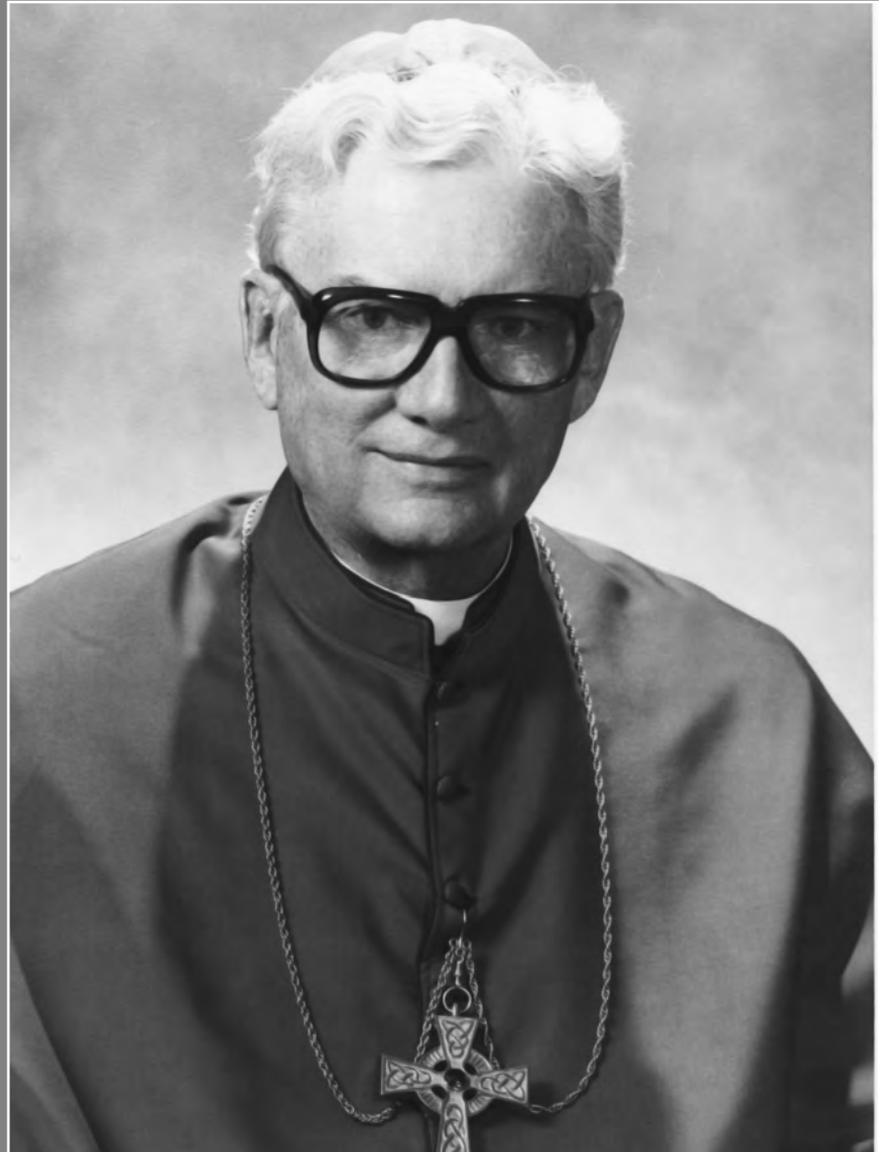
"I was really fortunate to work with the Student Union Board, Activities Programming Board, Student Government Association, Amigos orientation leaders and athletics student groups," he said. The Schonbergers continue their commitment to their USI student family by hosting alumni reunion events in their home.

Mr. Schonberger holds degrees from Bemidji State University and Indiana State University. He retired as dean of students emeritus after 38 years. Mrs. Schonberger, who earned degrees from Indiana University and University of Evansville, retired after 36 years as an art teacher in the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation.

In retirement, Mrs. Schonberger remains active in professional education organizations, designs jewelry and applies her artistic flair to their beautiful home and gardens. Mr. Schonberger restores sports cars and vintage motorcycles. He is a leader in the Sports Car Club of America, Junior Achievement and Red Cross.

The Schonbergers became Perpetual Members of the USI President's Associates when they created the G. Kent and Evelyn Schonberger Memorial Engineering Scholarship. Mr. Schonberger's father was a civil engineer and his mother was a teacher. "I wanted to be sure I had an opportunity to honor my parents," he said. "USI has been good to me."

*Bishop Shea had  
a long friendship  
with USI*



The early history of the University of Southern Indiana is inextricably linked to the Catholic Diocese of Evansville, the result of a property transfer in the late 60s. Miss Mary Nurrenbern donated a 220-acre tract of land to the Diocese with the understanding that all but 37 acres would be transferred to Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. to develop a campus for the University of Southern Indiana.

Pope Paul VI appointed the Most Reverend Francis Raymond Shea Bishop, D.D., bishop of the Evansville Diocese in 1969, the same year that USI moved to its present campus. He was born in 1913 in Knoxville, Tennessee, the youngest of seven children. Bishop Shea was educated at St. Charles College and St. Mary's Seminary, in Baltimore, Maryland; earned a master's degree at Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee; and a B.D. degree at Gregorian University in Rome, Italy. He was ordained as a priest in Rome in 1939. His early career was in teaching and parish assignments in Tennessee, and that experience as a teacher and principal led to his appointment as bishop of Evansville's 12-county diocese which includes many schools.

During his 19 years of service to the Church in southwestern Indiana, he advanced education and civil rights. He worked closely with the University of Southern Indiana's teacher education program to place student teachers in diocesan schools. His work extended to the Indiana Catholic Conference, Indiana Inter-religious Commission on Human Equality, the National Council of Catholic Bishops, the United States Catholic Conference, the Sierra Club, Knights of Columbus, Legion of Mary, Cursillo, St. Vincent DePaul Society, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Bishop Shea also was active in building access among the Spanish-speaking, the disadvantaged and the disabled.

For his humanitarian efforts, the bishop was awarded honorary doctorates from the University of Southern Indiana in 1983 and Vincennes University in 1988, and he received Sagamore of the Wabash awards from two Indiana governors. In 1989, he celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. At his death at age 80 in 1994, the Catholic Education Foundation of the Diocese of Evansville created the Bishop Shea Endowment Fund to honor his achievements.

*The Vaughns  
revealed New  
Harmony's value*



## D.W. and Alma Vaughn

D.W. and Alma Vaughn were the consummate community leaders, especially embracing education, music and the arts, their church and their beloved New Harmony, Indiana.

A tribute for one of their many awards read, “The Vaughns have long felt that the arms of Evansville envelop more than its legal boundaries, and they recognize New Harmony with its rich cultural, religious and historical qualities, and believe it deserves the support and attention of the Tri-state...not only for its provocative history, but where within hundreds of miles can one experience a Jacques Lipchitz, a Richard Meier and a Philip Johnson?”

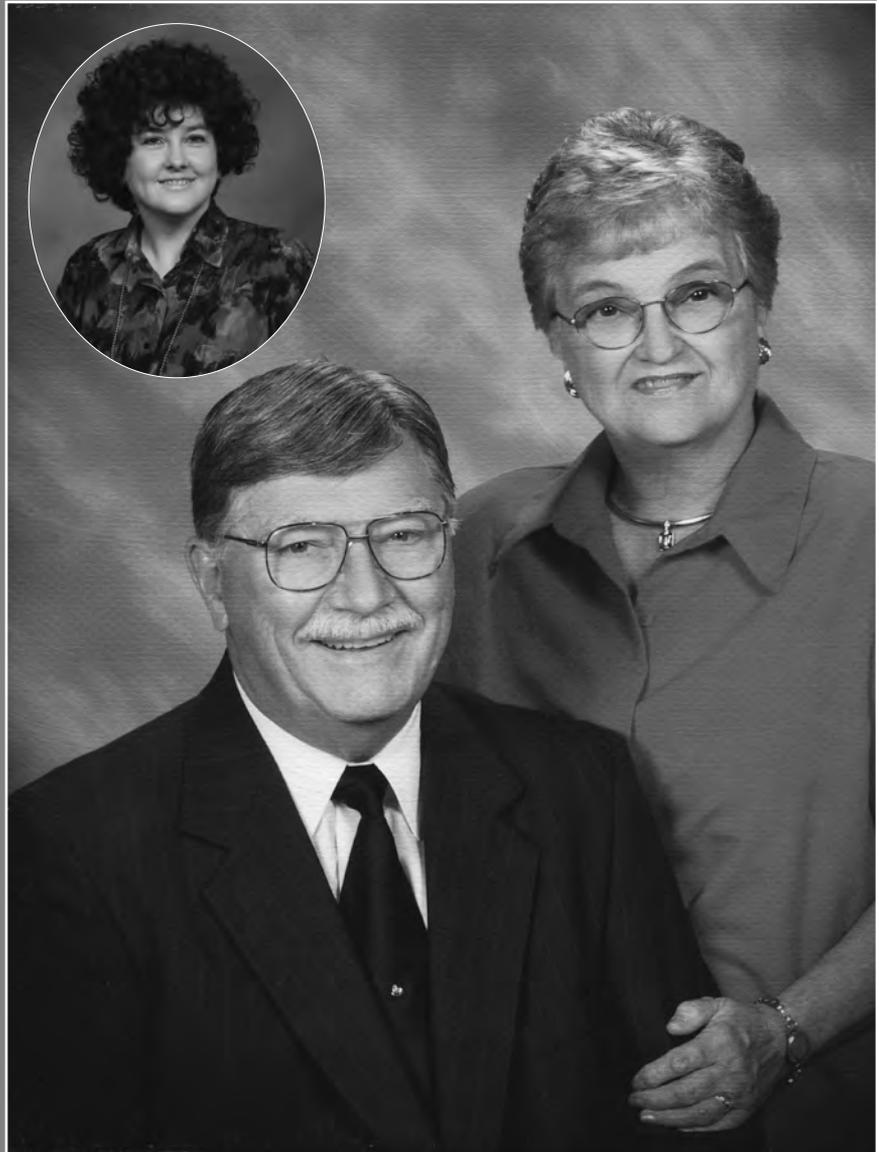
Some say Mrs. Vaughn was the first to recognize how New Harmony’s distinctiveness could enrich the lives of area residents, but her husband, chairman of Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company, soon brought his leadership and influence. He became president of Historic New Harmony, Inc., the organization that oversaw the preservation of many New Harmony structures with funding from Lilly Endowment, Inc. Mr. Vaughn also chaired the Robert Lee Blaffer Trust and Harmonie Associates. They owned an 1830-era cottage on Main Street to enable them to take greater advantage of community friendships and cultural offerings.

After 1985, when management of these assets was transferred to University of Southern Indiana, an endowment fund was established to support preservation, the D.W. and Alma Vaughn New Harmony Property Preservation Fund.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn were graduates of University of Evansville, which they served passionately as trustees. Their energies and philanthropic endeavors elevated every arts organization in Evansville, including the Musicians Club, the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, Victory Theatre and the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science endowment and Old Gallery addition. As members of Bethel United Church of Christ, their lifelong church work was broadly encompassing as teachers, musicians and volunteer officers. Much of their service to community, including developing better healthcare and ensuring a richer quality of life, was based in their faith.

Mr. Vaughn died in 1998 and Mrs. Vaughn died in 2004. Their daughter Laurel carries on their love for New Harmony through her generosity and volunteerism.

*Philanthropy is  
ingrained in the  
Williams family*



## Donald R. and Gayle E. Williams and Rebecca Williams '81

Evansville Reitz High School sweethearts Donald R. Williams and Gayle E. Slifer have enjoyed 58 years of marriage, raised two children, contributed to two communities and pursued careers and volunteerism with equal zeal, guided by “the joy of giving.”

Mrs. Williams was at home and involved in the lives of their children throughout their school years. Quality education was evidenced by Mrs. Williams’ service as president of parent-teacher organizations at every grade level and beyond. After years of volunteering and serving Deaconess Hospital, Mrs. Williams became manager of Volunteer Services and Community Relations for the hospital. Mr. Williams attended the University of Cincinnati and University of Evansville and enjoyed a 47-year-long career in engineering and architectural design, including at Evansville’s International Steel and Industrial Contractors.

Their son Bryan excelled in academia, studying at Wabash College, Middlebury College and University of Pennsylvania. Daughter Rebecca '81 suffered a childhood brain tumor at age 12. Valiantly, she led a physically challenged lifestyle, completed her education at the University of Southern Indiana and became the night supervisor of the University’s David L. Rice Library. Rebecca loved being responsible for patrons and staff in the evening. Her life ended at the young age of 45 after a second brain tumor.

Feeling the lure of New Harmony, the Williams bought a precut “true timber frame” home and had it assembled by a skilled builder. The distinctive three-story, exposed solid oak home is pegged and “built just like the Harmonists’ houses,” Mr. Williams said.

In New Harmony, Mr. and Mrs. Williams undertook projects which drew on his engineering and architectural skills and her devotion to education. She became known as “Aunt Gayle” through her reading and library programs. But both said the real philanthropist in their family was Rebecca. “She was so generous, seeing to whatever anyone needed,” Mrs. Williams said.

Beyond their support for USI and New Harmony, Mr. and Mrs. Williams established the Rebecca G. Williams USI Library Fund endowment with the Posey County Community Foundation. It annually supports programs, equipment and other needs of Rice Library.

## USI Foundation Board Chairs

Joseph E. O'Daniel†  
1968–1973

Albert A. Woll†  
1973–1976

E. Donald Elliott†  
1976–1986

R. Jack Brunton†  
1986–1987

C. Wayne Worthington†  
1987–1992

Ted C. Ziemer Jr  
1992–1998

Robert E. Griffin  
1998–2000

John M. Dunn  
2000–2002

Carolyn S. Georgette†  
2002–2003

Ronald D. Romain '73  
2003–2006

Thomas E. Topper†  
2006–2008

Bix Branson  
2008–2010

Kevin M. Eastridge  
2010–2012

Bruce H. Baker  
2012–2014

Marie Bussing  
2014–

† Deceased