

Planning for the *Future*

The Financial and Gift Planning Newsletter for Friends of Flagler College

SPRING 2024

ALUMNA HONORS FRIENDS' MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH HER LIVING TRUST

There are places and people that change you forever and for the better. For Page Wiedeman, ("JP" Preston), '83, the place was Flagler College, and the people were Dr. Mattie Hart and Hugh Shaw.

While attending Flagler, Page lost her best friend, Hugh Shaw, to an accident. "That would have totally shaken my faith had it not been for Mattie's influence," she says. "She helped me create a firm foundation for my beliefs in God. When the Hugh Shaw Scholarship was established, I knew I would donate to that fund, as well as to the Dr. Mattie E. Hart Scholarship."

While attending a different university, she visited Flagler on a spring break lark. She walked into Dr. Hart's class with a friend and was called upon despite not being a student. Intrigued, Page quickly transferred to Flagler College.

Page found a role model in Dr. Hart. "She built a personal relationship with each student. When I became a teacher, I mimicked her teaching style."



Page Preston, '83, and Dirk Wiedeman

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Want to read more inspiring stories like Page and Dirk's? Just scan the QR code to the right to learn about other loyal Flagler supporters.



SMART TIPS FOR SUPPORTING FLAGLER ACROSS THE DECADES

The things you care about most can shift as you journey through life. As you grow and change, you can use our road map to help you make smart choices—no matter your season of life!

In your 50s

You may be considering whether your investments and savings will carry you through retirement. Many loyal alumni and friends like you also start to think about deepening their commitment to people, causes and institutions that impacted their lives around this time.

Choose Your Best Approach

- **Preserve your values through your will or living trust:** With as little as one sentence, you can share your commitment to supporting students for generations. Whether you give a set amount or a percentage of your estate, your kindness will have an extraordinary impact on the success of future Saints, inside and outside the classroom.
- **Designate your bank or brokerage account:** Most states* allow you to name one or more individuals or charities as a beneficiary of a checking or savings account; certificates of deposit; or brokerage or investment accounts.

*State laws govern payable- and transfer-on-death accounts. Please consult with your bank representative or investment advisor if you are considering these gifts.

In your 60s

Does your estate plan reflect any life changes, such as retirement, an empty nest or caring for your parents? Now is a great time to review your important documents to ensure they align with your current situation and your long-term goals. Like many others, you may want to consider creating a gift that boosts your income and your investment in Flagler students and faculty.

Choose Your Best Approach

- **Establish a gift that pays you income:** You have several options to create a steady stream of lifetime income for yourself or a loved one. What's left of your gift will support programs and scholarships you are most passionate about.
- **Name us as a beneficiary:** Your retirement plan or a life insurance policy you no longer need can easily be transformed into an impactful gift that costs you nothing today. You can contact your plan administrator to get started or complete an online form.

What's Right for You?

We are ready to help you explore which giving options best fit your personal circumstances. Please contact Nicole Pece, Director of Development and Gift Planning, at npece@flagler.edu or (904) 819-6406 to get started!

In your 70s

Are you looking for meaningful ways to give back? Consider volunteering your time to support your community and causes you love. You also have many financial options to choose from that help extend your dedication and your budget.

Choose Your Best Approach

- **Make a difference today with your IRA:** If you are 70½ or older, you can give any amount up to \$105,000 from your IRA directly to Flagler College without having to pay income taxes on the money.
- **Boost your income with a legacy IRA:** Did you know you can establish a gift that pays you fixed income for life using a one-time distribution of up to \$53,000 from your IRA? Special rules apply, so contact us to see if this option is right for you.

In your 80s, 90s and beyond

Think about how you would like to be remembered. Consider making or repeating any of the gifts mentioned to continue growing your appreciation for Flagler and the life-changing experience our college provides. Do what makes you happy—you've earned it!

Choose Your Best Approach

- **Create a legacy letter:** Preserve your life story and express your eternal values through a written letter or recording that your loved ones will treasure.
- **Share your plans:** If you choose to carry on your gratitude through any of these legacy gifts, would you please let us know? That way, we can take the necessary steps to ensure we fulfill your wishes. Plus, it would be our honor to thank you for your kindness!

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Grateful for her “life changing” Flagler experience, Page made small donations every year. On a teacher’s salary, that seemed her only option. In her 40s, however, she decided to give through her living trust. “It was as easy as telling my attorney to designate a percentage to Hugh’s scholarship, a percentage to Dr. Hart’s scholarship and another to the Flagler Fund, with a minimum of \$25,000 to be donated and divided in thirds. I could never give this much today, but I can’t take that money with me!”

As a former educator, Page appreciates the ongoing need institutions have to cover operational costs. “Many people don’t realize colleges need alumni to help with donations if they want their alma mater to prosper.”

Though many years have passed since Page earned her Flagler diploma, she considers her experience the gift that keeps on giving. “I will be forever grateful to Dr. Hart! She impacted my life so positively, the very least I could do was give back!”

Giving through your will or trust furthers the mission of Flagler College. To learn more, please contact Nicole Pece today.



WHERE IS YOUR WILL?

Do you know where your will is? More importantly, do your loved ones know?

Having a will or trust in place is the most loving gift you can give to your heirs. Here's how you can make sure they can find your official instructions at a difficult time:

1. Make sure you have an up-to-date will or trust that reflects your values and your relationships with family, friends and causes close to your heart.
2. Keep the original signed document, along with a copy, in a secure and easily accessible location like a fireproof safe (not a safe-deposit box at a bank). Your estate planning attorney may also offer to store it at their office.
3. Tell your executor or personal representative the location of your will or trust. Share the location of your safe and its combination or key, or give them contact information for your attorney.

By following these three easy steps, you can help ensure your wishes will be followed and your loved ones' minds will be at ease.

Give Your Loved Ones Peace of Mind

As you decide what planned gift option works best for you, be sure to let your loved ones know of your intentions. Our FREE brochure ***For My Loved Ones: My Important Information*** can provide a road map for your loved ones that will help them honor your wishes and avoid undue stress.

Request yours by returning the enclosed reply card.



We're Happy to Help

If you have questions about the best ways to ensure your loved ones know your plans to leave a legacy gift with Flagler College, contact Nicole Pece, Director of Development and Gift Planning, using the information below.



JOIN THE FLAGLER SOCIETY

If you choose to establish any planned gift type discussed in this newsletter with Flagler College, or have already done so, you qualify to become a member of the Henry M. Flagler Society. All you have to do is let us know! We would be honored to welcome you along with the other 220+ members to the Flagler Society.

Making a planned gift—of any size or percentage—helps strengthen the Flagler College experience for future generations of Saints. Thank you to the current members of this prestigious group.



Flagler forward

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