These days there is no shortage of information available about financial and estate planning. Much of it promotes the need to take specific actions, such as making or updating your estate plan, investing wisely or planning for retirement. As time goes on, it is possible for many changes to occur that affect plans you have made for your long-term economic security, and that of your loved ones. Although these are important steps toward effective planning, keep in mind that they are only the beginning.

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• With continued uncertainty about possible limits on the charitable deduction and other benefits for taxpayers who itemize, now is the time to take advantage of full charitable tax incentives while they remain in place.
• Would you be interested in a way to provide a supplemental income to a loved one while continuing your support of Vanderbilt?

GIVING THROUGH YOUR WILL

The will is an extremely flexible instrument. Consider the different ways you can use your will to distribute property:

Leave a fixed amount. Your will can specify a dollar amount to be given.

Give adjustable amounts. Leaving designated percentages of your estate allows you to give proportions rather than specific amounts. The amounts received are typically automatically adjusted as your finances change.

Give “what’s left.” After first providing for loved ones in the amounts you determine to be appropriate, you may choose to devote all or a portion of the residue of your estate to charitable use.

GIVING THROUGH RETIREMENT PLANS

Did you know funds remaining in your IRA or certain other retirement accounts could be subject to state and/or federal estate taxes in the future along with other assets? Plus, unlike other assets, retirement funds are also subject to income tax. The combined impact of estate and income taxes can in some cases absorb a large portion of retirement assets left to loved ones.

Allocating these taxable retirement assets to Vanderbilt, and non-taxable property to loved ones, can be much more efficient. A gift of this type can usually be accomplished by completing a relatively simple change of beneficiary form, available from your plan administrator.

For more information or if we can assist with the charitable aspects of your plans, please return the enclosed card or contact us.

Graduation is a time of celebration at Vanderbilt.
Provide For a Loved One and Make a Gift to Vanderbilt

There is a wonderful way to provide educational funds for a child or grandchild while receiving immediate tax benefits as well. You can create a charitable remainder trust and use the payments to cover your student’s tuition. After the trust ends, what remains in the trust becomes a charitable gift to Vanderbilt. The charitable remainder trust offers dependable income, tax savings and the opportunity to support Vanderbilt.

Vanderbilt Gift Annuities Offer Multiple Benefits

How would you like:
- Fixed payments for life?
- An immediate income tax charitable deduction?
- Partially tax-free payments for a number of years?
- Reduced capital gains tax?

Through a charitable gift annuity, you can make a gift to Vanderbilt and fulfill other important financial goals as well. This convenient gift plan provides you with generous payments that will never change and will continue for as long as you and/or a loved one live—all while making a gift to the University.

How are payment rates determined?
Gift annuity payment rates vary according to the age of the annuitant(s) at the time the annuity is funded. The older you are when you fund your gift annuity, the higher your payment rate will be (see the chart above). Vanderbilt gift annuity payments will not decrease in size or frequency, regardless of changes in interest rates or stock market fluctuations.

TAKING CARE OF LOVED ONES

In addition to providing supplementary funds for yourself, Vanderbilt gift annuities can be arranged to provide income for your loved ones. Many married couples establish gift annuities that make payments for both of their lives. It is also possible to establish gift annuities for the benefit of a brother, sister, parent or others for whom you wish to provide an additional source of income for the remainder of their lives.

ENJOY GENEROUS TAX SAVINGS

In addition to the payments received, Vanderbilt gift annuities offer a number of ways to reduce or eliminate gift, income, estate and capital gains taxes. For more information about Vanderbilt gift annuities or to receive a personalized illustration, return the enclosed card.
Alum Credits Achievements and Success to Vanderbilt

John B. Neeld, B.A. Chemistry ’62, M.D. ’66, has a loyalty to Vanderbilt that runs deep. “Everything I’ve achieved—my successful career in medicine and medical politics—I owe to Vanderbilt. It all came from this place.”

Dr. Neeld was able to attend Vanderbilt because of a National Merit Scholarship. His father was a clerk with the Post Office, and attending Vanderbilt would not have been possible without some financial help. Neeld knew early on he wanted to be a doctor. However, he chose to forgo the opportunity to complete his undergraduate degree in three years before entering medical school. “Since I would be concentrating on medicine my entire career, I wanted to broaden my experience in the liberal arts. I’ve never regretted it.”

This experience undoubtedly contributed to a successful second career in organized medical politics. Over the years he has served as the President of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, been chair of the specialties delegation to the American Medical Association and on the Board of AMPAC. Now retired from Northside Anesthesiology in Atlanta, he has stayed very involved in these organizations.

As he reflected on some of his memories of his time at Vanderbilt, Neeld fondly recalled Dr. Shapiro, the “legendary professor of Pathology who knew every student by name.” Dr. Barton McSwain was another instructor who made an impression on Neeld—and his father. “My dad’s football tickets were directly behind Dr. McSwain’s. He ended up mailing my dad a copy of my grade from his class, which happened to be very good. Since all medical school courses were Pass/Fail, it was the only course in which I knew how I did!”

Neeld’s 50th undergraduate reunion is this fall, and he is looking forward to seeing classmates he has not seen in many years. He remains close with his medical school class and will be celebrating his 46th reunion the same weekend.

As a group, they intend to endow a medical scholarship, and Neeld has funded a charitable gift annuity to help them reach their goal. “I now have three annuities with Vanderbilt. Since I am retired, the annuity was particularly appealing to my wife, Gail, and me. We get payments for both our lifetimes as well as tax benefits. And we know the University will benefit as well. The charitable gift annuity is a win-win,” said Neeld.

Neeld and his wife have also included Vanderbilt in their estate plans. “I think someone who has benefitted greatly from other people’s generosity has a responsibility to give back. Someone put aside money to give me a chance. I’ve always known I would help others like I was helped.” The Neelds’ generosity and support of Vanderbilt—both now and in the future—will give others their chance.

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Increase Your Retirement Income

Some of our alumni and friends have chosen to create a series of gift annuities over time as a way to generate additional retirement income while reducing taxes during their peak earning years. Each additional gift annuity will generally result in a higher payment rate, more income and greater tax savings.
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