It’s not surprising Jack Colvin, BA’55, MS’58, JD’65, chose to study geology—and then law—or that he enjoyed a successful career as a result. A sharp mind coupled with an inquisitive nature, Jack developed and then honed his critical thinking skills at Vanderbilt.

Jack recalls that he knew at an early age he wanted to attend Vanderbilt. “Vanderbilt was the only school I applied to,” said Colvin. His mother, a registered nurse, had attended Peabody College. Jack grew up living in a 20-room hotel his parents owned in nearby Centerville, Tennessee. This was during the height of WWII, and the many members of military passing through on their way to Nashville or Memphis were warmly welcomed by the Colvin family.

Jack first thought that he would follow family members in a career in medicine, but after taking a geology course, his life and career would be forever changed. “The Department of Geology was top-notch. Having grown up outdoors hiking, hunting, and fishing, geology immediately appealed to me.” Inspired by the enthusiasm of the faculty, Jack pursued his bachelor’s and master’s in geology.

Hours of exploration in the field led Colvin to Kentucky, looking for oil and gas prospects and eventually drilling 15 oil wells. With his oil discoveries came many encounters with lawyers and complex multi-page contracts. “To be successful in this business, I needed a law degree,” said Colvin. With the encouragement of childhood friend and, at that time Associate Dean of the Law School, John Beasley II, and the decision to attend law school full-time (paid for with his oil leases), he pursued his third Vanderbilt degree.

Colvin spent a large part of his career as Director of Corporate Lands at U.S. Borax (now called Rio Tinto Minerals). It was a perfect fit for his education: negotiating mineral leases and assisting the company’s Exploration Department in acquiring its lengthy array of mineral resource prospects.

Though he lived across the country, the university was always at the forefront of his philanthropy. “I began supporting Vanderbilt annually after I graduated. During my 22 years at Borax, they matched my donations, so I was able to double my gifts,” Colvin said.

Colvin maintains close ties to Vanderbilt, especially the friendships he made in law school, and serves as a class agent. Over the years, Colvin and his wife, Beth, a former educator and passionate volunteer, have discovered multiple ways to support Vanderbilt in addition to their generous outright giving. They established a charitable gift annuity to benefit the Law School a few years ago and continue to enjoy quarterly payments and the tax benefits that resulted from their gift.

Continued on page 2
LEGACY

5 ADVANTAGES OF A VANDERBILT GIFT ANNUITY*

A gift annuity enables you to make a gift that might otherwise have come through your estate—while you also enjoy significant benefits today.

1. You will receive regular, fixed payments for your lifetime, regardless of what occurs in the financial markets. The amount of your payments depends on your age at the time your annuity is funded. For example, an 85-year-old receives a higher payment rate than a 75-year-old and, once established, the payment rate never changes.

2. When you itemize your deductions, you are entitled to an income tax deduction in the year your gift is made—regardless of how long you will be receiving income.

3. You will enjoy income that is partially free of federal income tax for a period of time equal to your life expectancy.

4. You can provide a dependable income for your spouse, parent, or another loved one along with you or instead of you, if you wish.

5. Your gift will have a lasting impact! Based on your designated purpose for the gift, students, faculty, or researchers will benefit from your investment in Vanderbilt’s mission.

For your own personalized illustration detailing your benefits, return the enclosed card. Vanderbilt’s Planned Giving team is here to answer all your questions—call (615) 343-3113 or (888) 758-1999. All requests are confidential and with no obligation.

*The minimum to fund a Vanderbilt charitable gift annuity is $100,000.

A LEGACY… continued from page 1

Because the Colvins share a desire to provide scholarship opportunities for deserving law students in future years, they have established the Beth and John Colvin Scholarship, combining an outright gift with a gift through their estates. “Vanderbilt has made student aid a priority. We don’t want a lack of funds to stand in the way of gifted students who can benefit from a first-class education,” said Colvin.

“Vanderbilt had such an impact on my life and my career,” shared Colvin. “I want to share that with as many others as possible.”

LIFE CHANGES MEAN IT’S TIME TO UPDATE YOUR ESTATE PLANS

Has anything changed in your life in the last year? Have you retired, had a change in family make-up, moved to another state, or seen a change in the value of your assets? If you have experienced any of these, you may want to revisit your estate plans to be sure they reflect your personal, financial, and philanthropic goals.

If Vanderbilt University is included in your plans, please accept our deep appreciation and let us honor you by welcoming you into the Sarratt Society. You may want to share the following bequest language with your attorney:

“I give, devise and bequeath to The Vanderbilt University, a not-for-profit corporation located in Nashville, Tennessee, (“Vanderbilt”) the sum of $________ (or ______% of my residuary estate) to be used for its general purposes.”

If you would like to designate your bequest to a particular purpose, school, or program, please contact the Planned Giving Team for specific language and to learn how you can use a gift agreement to document your gift and its future use.
OPENING DOORS TO SUCCESS

There is a saying that when one door closes, another opens. For Sarratt Society member Sarah Hunt, BS’67, the door to Peabody never closed after she graduated. In fact, that door remained open—and welcoming—over the years, providing many opportunities and possibilities in her career.

Hunt’s father and brother attended Vanderbilt, as well as her younger sister. So Vanderbilt was a natural fit for her to explore her interests in education. As a result of an early interaction, she narrowed her focus to special education. “My freshman roommate had a brother with a disability. This was the first time I knew someone with special needs. As I pursued my studies, I realized that many of these children weren’t being served,” recalled Hunt.

Hunt’s time at Vanderbilt opened her eyes in many ways. A collegial relationship with fellow education students at nearby Fisk University included joint projects and weekend study retreats. “The experience broadened my horizons. This invaluable lesson helped build a strong understanding of diversity among us,” she said. “I am encouraged with Vanderbilt’s continued focus on diversity today.”

After graduating, Hunt lived in Shelbyville, Tennessee and taught special education in the public school system. As part of this practical experience, she saw firsthand where the deficits in the education system were, specifically with early intervention. Hunt, with “incredible community support,” began the Child Development Center (now known as the Community Development Center) in 1972. Initially, the CDC served children 18 months to 4 years. Over time, the focus shifted to birth to age 2 and eventually expanded to include various adult services as well.

For the next 30 years, she served as agency director. Officially retired, she currently serves on the foundation board and governing board of the CDC.

From the very beginning of her tenure at the CDC, Hunt maintained close ties to faculty and resources at Peabody. “Peabody was my right hand. The support services so critical to our success were at Vanderbilt—speech therapy for our students at the Bill Wilkerson Center, guidance from faculty on how to form a professional organization, special workshops, opportunities to observe in the classroom, and ongoing training for my staff. The door at Peabody wasn’t just open, it was revolving,” shared Hunt.

With a desire to provide graduate students financial support in the future, Hunt has named Vanderbilt as a beneficiary of a portion of her retirement plan. “As I considered establishing a long-term resource for future teachers at Peabody, I wanted my gift to be used for practical purposes: training teachers who work with children with autism. This is a growing need, and Peabody has been instrumental in writing grants and providing pediatricians with the resources to help them diagnose autism earlier.”

For Hunt, the door to Peabody—and Vanderbilt—is still wide open and welcoming. Having relocated to Nashville, she often attends lectures, faculty and staff recognition events, and even graduation. “Peabody provided me with the tools for success which enabled me to help others. For that I am grateful.”

Naming Vanderbilt as a beneficiary of a retirement account is a simple process. On your IRA beneficiary designation form, simply include this information:

Vanderbilt University
Office of Planned Giving
PMB 407756 • 2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37240-7756 • Ph: (615) 343-3113
plannedgiving@vanderbilt.edu • Tax ID number: 62-0476822
A retired United Methodist Church minister who followed in his father’s footsteps from Missouri to Vanderbilt University Divinity School will establish a scholarship to inspire a new generation of Missouri Methodist church leaders.

The Rev. E.W. Bartley Sr., 1915 and Rev. E.W. Bartley Jr., 1940 Scholarship will provide financial support through a generous bequest to benefit deserving Vanderbilt master of divinity students.

Elbridge Wesley Bartley Sr. was born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1887. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Central Methodist University in Fayette, Missouri, before enrolling at Vanderbilt, where he received a bachelor of divinity in 1915. He served many churches during his 49 years of service, including several in Kansas City and St. Louis. Bartley Jr., who is 99 years old and the surviving member of the Class of 1940, was born in Kansas City, Missouri. Bartley Jr. also earned a bachelor’s degree from Central Methodist University before enrolling at Vanderbilt. Bartley Jr. has served churches in Missouri cities including Kansas City, St. Louis, Rolla, and Charleston.

“Together the Bartleys served Missouri Methodism with more than a century of Christian service,” said Emilie M. Townes, dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of Womanist Ethics and Society. “This generous scholarship should attract prospective students from the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church to Vanderbilt Divinity School and hopefully return them to serve there.”

“Bequests and other planned gifts are critical for the Divinity School,” said Kitty Norton, assistant dean of the Divinity School for Development and Alumni Relations. “As an endowment, those scholarships grow over time. We have several gifts that have grown to support multiple students.”

“We are grateful to Rev. Bartley for this commitment and to all the donors who invest in our students and the work they are dedicated to doing.”