Public spirited, community minded, dedicated to the common good: These phrases describe the lives of Ruth Furman Miller and David H. Miller.

The couple met in grade school and both graduated from Carnegie Tech in 1942. They remained proud and loyal alumni all their lives.

In addition to their alma mater, the Millers had a strong affinity for Pittsburgh as well. In 1962, living in Mount Washington, the Millers learned that the Duquesne Incline was slated to be shut down. Determined to save this historic service, the Millers organized the community, collected funds door-to-door, and started the organization that successfully saved the Incline and runs it to this day. Thanks to the concern of the Millers, the Incline remains in full operation as a beloved Pittsburgh institution.

David Miller died in 2008, and Ruth in 2015, but their legacy of caring and concern lives on: Their estate plan included a substantial gift to Carnegie Mellon, which will be used to create a Presidential Fellowship in their name. The Presidential Fellowships and Scholarships Program was established by President Subra Suresh in 2014 to enable CMU to continue to attract the most promising applicants and retain the highest caliber of student scholars. The Millers’ estate gift will generate income in perpetuity to support talented graduate students in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Throughout their lives, the Millers worked to preserve and better the city and community they held dear. Now, their legacy at Carnegie Mellon will ensure that the best and brightest students can become tomorrow’s leaders and agents of positive change, like the Millers themselves, here and throughout the world.
CONSIDERING A BEQUEST?
LEAVE A LEGACY AND CHANGE THE FUTURE

When we pause and reflect on what means the most to us, the answer is often family, friends and making a better world for future generations. Leaving a lasting legacy through a bequest in your will or estate plan can support the people and causes you value most, ensuring that your contributions continue to create change for many years to come.

In order to make certain that your wishes are carried out, a well-thought-out estate plan is a vital step in planning for the future. Without a will or trust, state law will determine how your assets are distributed and charities, like CMU, are not considered as beneficiaries of your estate. If your intentions include CMU, it is important to show your support through a legacy gift in your will.

Why Should I Include CMU in My Will?

A Gift By Will Is Easy To Make
A bequest is easy to implement, and simple to change at any time. You can give specific property or designate a dollar amount or a percentage of your estate. You can also designate CMU as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy.

A Gift By Will Is a Future Gift
Making a bequest is a way to support CMU without affecting your existing asset balance or cash flow. There are no substantial costs and you can continue your current lifestyle.

A Gift By Will Can Change Lives
CMU’s impact on society through continual innovation in education, research and the arts improves lives every day. Be a part of our exciting future and designate your legacy gift to fund any specific purpose that speaks to your heart and mind.

A Gift By Will Creates A Lasting Legacy
Including Carnegie Mellon in your will demonstrates your commitment to the future of CMU, and a bequest can allow you to increase your support to a level you may have always aspired to achieve.

Every donor makes a difference. Your legacy can continue here at Carnegie Mellon and bequests are an impactful way our donors change the world every day. To learn more about making a bequest and to find sample language for your will, return the reply card or visit us at www.giftplanning.cmu.edu/your-will

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Theresa joined the Office of Gift Planning in 2014. She manages the administration of estates and works with donors and advisors to consider the legal and tax implications of various gift strategies. Prior to joining CMU's gift planning team, Theresa practiced law in Pittsburgh for over a decade, specializing in complex estate planning.

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Laura recently joined the Gift Planning Team at CMU and brings with her over 15 years work experience in the nonprofit and private sector. Laura has extensive expertise in fundraising, marketing and promoting program strategies, and related events expertise surrounding gift planning. She is a graduate of University of Michigan, and Washington College of Law.

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If you have a question for the Office of Gift Planning, please call Joseph Bull, JD, Executive Director of Gift Planning, at 412-268-1948, or send an email to askjobull@andrew.cmu.edu.