A Meaningful Impact

Over the past 30 years, Audrey Fitzgerald (E 1985) has always quite literally answered the call to support the next chapter of the Carnegie Mellon University story.
Audrey Fitzgerald (E 1985) remembers her work-study position during her time as a student at Carnegie Mellon University. She pushed her out of her comfort zone more than any other.

While conversations with CMU students started her legacy of giving, a few years ago she and her husband evaluated their will and estate plan and were inspired to make an even more meaningful impact on future generations.

"I realized I was fortunate enough in my life to do something bigger and broader," she explains. "The whole process was very easy."

Audrey's gift is designed to benefit women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields to recruit more women to those fields.

"Every night for a few hours, I would dial alumni on my rotary phone, and I'd talk to them about making a gift to CMU. It was the hardest work-study job I had," Audrey says with a laugh.

For the past 31 years, whenever she receives a phone call from a current Tartan, she picks up the phone, talks with them about campus happenings, reminiscences a bit — and supports..."
Audrey Fitzgerald started her decades of giving only a few years after graduation. Audrey and Bill Fitzgerald, pictured with their children Michael and Sara, are planning for the future with a gift to CMU in their will.

Audrey Fitzgerald (E1985) remembers one work-study position during her time as a student at Carnegie Mellon University that pushed her out of her comfort zone more than any other. The next chapter of the CMU story with a gift is beautiful for an education that I probably wouldn’t have been able to receive without the financial aid package with scholarships that I was given. Giving back to CMU just makes sense to me.

While conversations with CMU students started her legacy of giving, a few years ago she and her husband evaluated their will and estate plan and were inspired to make an even more meaningful impact on future generations. I realized I was fortunate enough in my life to do so something bigger and broader, she explains.

Audrey also appreciated the flexibility offered with a gift through her will should she desire to alter the amount or purpose of her contribution in the coming years. It also offers continued access to her funds should she ever need them.

Audrey’s gift is designed to benefit women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields to recruit more women to those fields, support them while they’re pursuing their education and help them throughout their careers.

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"I was a senior, working on my very first STEM project during the Civil Engineering car wash in the fall of 1984. I was required to work in the lab and computer science during the winter, and computer science during the fall. It was a valuable path to follow for the future students, and with the help of my mentor, I learned a lot."

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Audrey was one of only a few women in her freshman year, and was required to stay in and rejoin after her career. "The girls were a bit taken aback by the experience, but I didn't think that the experience with my new friends was anything to laugh about," says Audrey. "They were all as)"
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† I am considering including CMU in my estate plans.

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† A gift that provides lifetime income
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† A gift of appreciated stock
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Please fill out the form on the next panel, seal it closed and drop it in the mail.

For more information, contact the Office of Gift Planning at mickkoster@andrew.cmu.edu or 412-268-5346.