

## Remembering Sue

### Inside a family's commitment

**S**ue Nguyen, MA'73, loved to travel. One of the original "jetsetters," she worked and studied around the world, visiting far-flung locales such as Morocco and Belize long before they became tourist hot spots.

Her other enduring passion was for education, leading her to become a fierce advocate for children as a public school counselor.

So when it came time for her family to commemorate her life, they turned to a place none of them had ever been to, but that embodied Nguyen's values—Boston College.

"The decision was simple," recalls Nguyen's niece, Glenda Lee, who helped her family establish an endowed academic award for BC graduate students and then a second endowed fund for postgraduate travel.

"We knew how important Aunt Sue's education had been to her, and we wanted to help other students follow in her footsteps—wherever that may take them."

#### A WOMAN OF THE WORLD

Born in Hanoi, Vietnam, Nguyen came to the U.S. with her family when she was 24 years old. She attended college on a full scholarship and went on to study French literature in Paris, teach in Vietnam, work as a radio broadcaster in Australia, attend interpretation school in Switzerland, and finally, earn a master's degree in French literature at BC.

**"This level of philanthropy is something my family had never experienced before, so it's been a learning process for us."**

— Glenda Lee, niece of Sue Nguyen, MA'73



The Nguyen family worked closely with BC staff to establish two endowed awards in memory of Sue Nguyen, MA'73, seen here in a colorized photo taken when she was a student.

"Aunt Sue said she wanted to explore the world on a more intellectual, academic level, and that's why she chose Boston College," says Lee. "She described her time there as one of the happiest of her life."

Nguyen eventually settled in Houston, where she served as a middle-school guidance counselor for more than 20 years. Other than traveling, she lived frugally and managed to save a substantial nest egg to enjoy in her retirement. But just a year after she retired, she was diagnosed with cancer and given only months to live.

Ever practical, Nguyen put her savings into a trust and asked her older sister, Bich Thi Nguyen, to oversee its distribution to family members and charitable causes, leaving the specifics up to her sister.

"Aunt Bich felt a tremendous responsibility to do it right, so after Sue passed away in 2011, Bich called the whole family

together so we could make the decisions as a team," recalls Lee.

#### FAMILY TIES

Through conversations with BC's University Advancement staff, the family learned more about the romance languages and literature department, where Nguyen had studied.

Eager to help defray student costs, they made a gift from her estate to establish the Sue L. Nguyen '73 Prize for Academic Excellence in Graduate Studies. They were pleasantly surprised when the award's first recipient sent them all personal notes of gratitude.

"He was so enthusiastic and respectful of Aunt Sue, talking about how her career was an inspiration to him, as a fellow immigrant," says Lee. "We were all deeply moved, and we decided to see what more we could do."

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# Tax-Wise Tips to End the Year Right

By Ericka L. Webb  
Director of Gift Planning  
BOSTON COLLEGE



As winter approaches, our thoughts naturally turn to Christmas, New Year's resolutions—and charitable giving.

As you consider your end-of-year giving, remember that every gift to Boston College makes an indelible impact at the Heights. And, with a little planning, these gifts can create valuable tax benefits for you and your family.

Here are some tips to keep in mind:



Maximize the impact of your gift to BC by making the donation before December 31—you'll get an income tax deduction and may reduce the taxable portion of your estate. (*IRS limitations apply*)



Consider using appreciated securities to make a gift—a tax-wise way to support BC. For securities held longer than one year, you can deduct the full fair market value and avoid paying capital gains tax.



Explore a charitable gift annuity (CGA) at Boston College. You can make a gift now with cash or appreciated securities, receive tax benefits, and enjoy guaranteed income for the rest of your life.



Make a gift directly to BC from your IRA. The distribution will not be subject to income tax, and it can count toward your required minimum distribution. You must be 70½ or older to take advantage of this giving option. ■

To learn more about these and other ways to show your support for Boston College, contact us at 877-304-SHAW or [legacygiving@bc.edu](mailto:legacygiving@bc.edu). As always, we encourage you to consult with a financial, tax, or legal advisor when making estate planning decisions.



## Welcome New Members

More than 70 alumni, parents, and friends have made legacy gifts to Boston College this year. We are proud to recognize their support with membership in the University's prestigious Shaw Society.

Anne M. Ahern  
John F. Ahern '58  
Thomas J. Akin, P'15  
Amabel K. Allen  
William J. Allen, MSP'71  
James F. Andary '66  
Charles Badlato, P'14  
Julia M. Badlato, P'14  
Jeff L. Barden '91  
Alaina M. Barletta '86  
Kathleen M. Beam '86, P'17 '19  
Kevin P. Beam '85, P'17 '19  
Elizabeth Renick Bracher '91, MA'95, PhD'04  
Troy C. Bracher '91  
David Brooks, MA'73, MDiv'91  
Ellen E. Callas '84  
Edward V. Cronin '43, P'72 '74 '75 '77 '81\*  
James S. Davey '86

Sallie A. Vece DeMarsilis '86  
William G. Donnelly, Esq., JD'68  
Carole A. Drisdell '66  
David P. Dunn '56\*  
Kathleen L. Dunn\*  
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Philip W. Eichenholz  
Diane M. English '91  
Jeffrey B. English '91  
Genevieve V. Foley '66  
Richard M. Gaberman, Esq., JD'63  
Andrea Donkin Gartland  
Arthur J. Gartland Jr. '68  
Kaye Gnazzo, P'86, '88, '91  
Kenneth W. Gnazzo '62, P'86 '88 '91  
Edward Hanrahan, S.J.\*  
Lisa M. Hastings '80, MA'09  
Leonard G. Healy Jr. '56  
Stephen R. Herrera '97

Nora E. Hollis, P'77 '80\*  
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Michele Hughes  
Anne Rickard Jackowitz, Esq., '86, JD'89  
Todd Jackowitz '86  
Leenie Marie Kelley '86  
Inger Kenworthy  
Randal A. Kenworthy '91  
Sherry K. Krokowski '91  
William P. Krokowski  
James E. Lozier, Esq., '71, P'00 '02  
Renee Rieman Lozier '71, P'00 '02  
Robert R. Marshall '88, P'17  
Tanjani Reed Marshall '86, P'17  
Joseph Matarese '90  
Kevin J. McCabe '63  
Adeline McGrath\*  
Barbara McKay\*  
Harry W. McKay, DEd'79\*  
R. J. J. McMahon Jr. '86, P'13 '14

Roberta B. McMahon '86, P'13 '14  
Robert C. Mendelson, Esq., JD'80  
Kristen B. Morin '86  
Ana M. Motta, P'15 '18  
Luis Carlos Motta '86, P'15 '18  
Christine L. Mulroney '86, MED'93  
Kathryn Doolan Pagnani, Esq., '86, P'18  
Keith Andrew Pagnani, P'18  
Arthur V. Paletti, MBA'62\*  
Jean Paletti\*  
Diane Schneider, P'89  
Herbert J. Schneider, Esq., JD'64, P'89  
Arthur T. Silk '51, P'81, '86\*  
Arnold Sookram '91  
Douglas W. Squasoni '86  
Michele Pullia Turk '86  
Kristin M. Waring '86, P'20  
Rebecca Wendling

\*Deceased



# A Meaningful Investment

## Supporting Entrepreneurship at BC

“Entrepreneurship brings together so many skills—analysis, strategy, negotiation, and creative problem-solving,” says Tom O’Brien ’60. “That’s what makes it so exciting.”

A longtime BC donor and member of the Shaw Society, which recognizes those who have included the University in their estate planning, O’Brien recently made a gift to the new Edmund H. Shea Jr. Center for Entrepreneurship.

“I was glad to see BC focusing on entrepreneurship through the establishment of the Shea Center, because it’s an area of business education that hasn’t received enough focus until recently,” says O’Brien.

“The Shea Center’s mission is to integrate entrepreneurial skills and knowledge into the educational experience of BC students across all disciplines,” says Jere Doyle, executive director of the center. “Tom understands our vision, and gifts like his are vital to developing those critical skills in our students.”

That interdisciplinary approach is what most impressed O’Brien, who says entrepreneurial skills are vital in any new venture.

“Being an entrepreneur is about more than just taking a company public or building a new app,” says O’Brien. “It’s broader than that. A nursing student might start a service company or an educator might launch a charter school.”

### BUILDING A LEGACY

O’Brien began his career working for such large corporations as Nestlé, Rawlings Sporting Goods, and General Foods. He handled more than 100 mergers and acquisitions and quickly became known for his successful company turnarounds. He then moved into venture capital and operations, using his expertise to identify struggling companies, analyze their strengths and weaknesses, restructure them, and market them for resale.

O’Brien credits Boston College for much of his professional success, but the depth of his affection for the

**“Being an entrepreneur is about more than just taking a company public or building a new app. It’s broader than that.”**

—Tom O’Brien ’60

University extends beyond the academic—it’s where he met his late wife, Betty. In a bit of a twist on a BC love story, she wasn’t an Eagle—rather, an Olympic-level figure skater who practiced at BC’s ice rink.

It’s in her memory—as well as in honor of his late father and his granddaughter, both BC alumni—that O’Brien made his gift to the Shea Center, and he hopes to inspire others to leave their own legacy at the Heights.

“We are a BC family,” says O’Brien, “and I’m proud to shape the future of Boston College.” ■

Tom O’Brien ’60 and his daughter Lisa O’Brien



The 2016 Nguyen Travel Research Prize was shared by Mario Lorenzo, MA'17 (far left), and Regina Pieck Pressly, MA'17 (far right), seen here with the 2016 Nguyen Prize for Excellence winner Kaitlyn Quaranta '14, MA'16 (second from left), and the Nguyen family (l-r, center), Nancy Lee, Bich Thi Nguyen, and Glenda Lee.

## A Family That Gives Together

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Their second estate gift established the Sue L. Nguyen '73 Travel Research Prize, and when the first awards were distributed this year, Lee; her mother, Nancy Lee; and her Aunt Bich flew to Boston to attend the ceremony.

“It was great to meet the students and hear about their lives and their ambitions,” says Lee. “We saw how close-knit the BC community is, how invested the faculty are in their students, and we knew we’d made the right choice.”

Buoyed by their experiences at BC, Lee and her family have gone on to make gifts to other organizations from Nguyen’s trust, and they are beginning to discuss charitable giving as part of their own estate plans.

“This level of philanthropy is something my family had never experienced before, so it’s been a learning process for us,” says Lee.

“It’s also been a healing process, especially for my mother and Aunt Bich. They felt Aunt Sue was gone too fast, too soon, and it means the world to them to know that she won’t be forgotten. Her legacy will live on.” ■

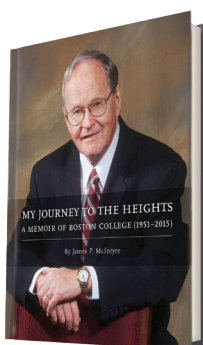
► To learn how you can honor a loved one through legacy gifts, contact the Office of Gift Planning at [legacygiving@bc.edu](mailto:legacygiving@bc.edu).

# BOSTON COLLEGE News & Notes

## REMEMBERING Mr. BC

From his years as a student in the Evening College through his unprecedented 56-year BC career, the late James P. McIntyre '57, MEd'61, DEd'67, H'11, played a unique role in shaping Boston College. Known to generations as "Mr. BC," his story has been brought to life through a poignant memoir that captures in his own words the evolution of the school he loved.

*My Journey to the Heights: A Memoir of Boston College* (1951–2015), chronicles his personal voyage as well as BC's transformation from a local commuter school to one of the nation's preeminent national universities. Produced at the request of University President William P. Leahy, S.J., the memoir is available online at [bc.edu/bookstore](http://bc.edu/bookstore) and at the BC Bookstore on campus.



## NURTURING Teen Spirituality

One hundred students from 18 states and 59 high schools gathered on campus this summer to learn about Jesuit spirituality and education through the inaugural Ever to Excel program. Students lived on campus for the weeklong program and explored topics such as discernment, pilgrimage, and service in the Jesuit tradition.

Established by the Institute for Advanced Jesuit Studies, the program was led by BC faculty and alumni, with current students acting as mentors. Ever to Excel was made possible by a \$600,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc., part of Lilly's High School Youth Theology Institutes initiative. Learn more at [bc.edu/evertexcel](http://bc.edu/evertexcel).



## EVOLVING Campus

Visitors to the Heights will notice two major additions—the new residence hall at 2150 Commonwealth Avenue and the McMullen Museum of Art's new home on Brighton Campus—and one significant subtraction, with the demolition of Edmond's Hall.

Originally named the Reservoir Apartments, or "Rezzies," Edmond's opened in September 1975, and since then, some 30,000 students, staff, and campus ministers have called it home. In its place, BC will build a 240,000-square-foot recreation facility to replace the aging Flynn Recreation Complex as part of the University's Institutional Master Plan. Demolition began in early August, and construction will continue through 2018, with the center's opening slated for 2019.

The center is made possible by a lead gift from Trustee Margot Connell, H'09, and her family. To learn how you can support BC's new athletic facilities, contact Peter Boston, director of development for athletics, at [peter.boston@bc.edu](mailto:peter.boston@bc.edu).



The new center will include a pool, fitness center, jogging track, and more.

## Mark Your Calendar Winter Wonderland

**SATURDAY, DEC. 10**

**11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Cadigan Alumni Center**

Join alumni, parents, and friends for this special holiday tradition.

Guests will enjoy photos with Santa, the songs of strolling carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides, craft stations, a petting zoo, and more.

Learn more at [bc.edu/winterwonderland](http://bc.edu/winterwonderland).



## You've got questions? We've got **answers.**

Contact the gift planning team for confidential, personalized help, and start building your legacy today.

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# Expert Advice: Today's Retirement Planning

Ongoing changes in tax policy, the economy, and employment will affect your retirement—and the more you know, the better able you are to prepare. Here are three ways you can improve your retirement planning from BC's Center for Retirement Research.

## 1. Take charge of your own retirement

This is especially true if you don't have an employer doing it for you. More and more workers are relying on short-term jobs without benefits—the so-called “gig economy.” This puts the burden squarely on the individual's shoulders to make a retirement plan and follow it.

Need help? Go online and try *Curious Behaviors That Can Ruin Your Retirement*, an interactive program that helps users spot ways they may be sabotaging their own retirement plans—and what to do instead. Explore it at [bc.edu/curiousbehaviors](https://bc.edu/curiousbehaviors).

## 2. Put your home to work

It's one of your most important tools to increase retirement income. Downsizing to a smaller home can free up important assets, as long as tax implications and reinvestment are carefully considered. A reverse mortgage, which converts equity into monthly payments, can help eligible seniors stay in their homes. Home-sharing and renting unused rooms through sites like Airbnb have helped some creative seniors pay the bills.

The Sloan Center on Aging and Work's booklet *Using Your House for Income in Retirement* examines downsizing and reverse mortgages with clear examples, includes the pros and cons of each approach, and provides links to online assessment tools. Find a free PDF at [bc.edu/houseincome](https://bc.edu/houseincome).

## 3. Get squared away

Ours is a rapidly changing world. We live longer, have children later, settle further away from our parents, and are more likely to experience life-changing events than previous generations. At the same time, the Great Recession (2007–2009) had a lasting impact on housing, the workplace, and the economy that researchers are still exploring. The result is a complicated landscape, making it more important than ever to understand the implications these changes will have on your finances.

Learn more on the CRR blog, *Squared Away*, which helps people better understand their behavior so they can act in their own best financial interest. It's a one-stop way to keep up with news, research, and analysis on important issues that impact us all. Read it at [squaredawayblog.bc.edu](https://squaredawayblog.bc.edu).



## Did You Know...

A charitable gift annuity is one of the most straightforward and rewarding ways to show your support for Boston College.





BOSTON COLLEGE

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THE LEGACY GIVING NEWSLETTER OF BOSTON COLLEGE

“We knew how important Aunt Sue’s education had been to her, and we wanted to help other students follow in her footsteps.”

—Glenda Lee, center, whose family established two scholarships in memory of her aunt Sue Nguyen, MA’73

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