

Bookmarks

SPRING 2022

THE GIFT PLANNING NEWSLETTER OF BOSTON COLLEGE

A Legacy of Love

Their steadfast commitment to Boston College spanned decades; their final act broke records.



E. PAUL ROBSHAM SR., LGSOE '83,
AND JOYCE L. ROBSHAM, P'86

Parents, philanthropists, and patrons of the arts, the Robsham family has long been associated with Boston College's theater program. But that was just the beginning of a generosity that spans decades and departments. During their lifetimes, the Robshams' numerous contributions over the years touched countless BC students—and with an unprecedented \$75 million realized bequest to Boston College, their legacy at the Heights will endure for generations to come.

Growing up, Joyce and Paul's son, Paul Jr., played hockey and had his sights set on attending Boston College. In 1982, his dream came true. But tragedy struck just a year into his undergraduate education at the Heights when he was killed in a car accident.

University President J. Donald Monan, S.J., immediately reached out to the grieving parents, providing spiritual and emotional support. His kindness in that moment fused an enduring bond between them and the University.

Over the next several years, Paul and Joyce devoted time, energy, and resources to BC. "Before Paul passed away, he decided that BC would be the major beneficiary of the couple's estate," recalls Robsham estate trustee Jack Downs. "They both

valued education. Together they focused on scholarships and tuition assistance and creating buildings that would be for the use of the students."

In recognition of their nearly \$1 million gift to the Heights more than 35 years ago, BC named its new theater in memory of Paul Jr. In the decades that followed, the Robshams always had an eye toward improving the student experience. They invested in several University priorities under President William P. Leahy, S.J., and established funds supporting students, faculty, and facilities. They also hosted events and Paul served as a University trustee and trustee associate.

After Paul's death in 2004, Joyce worked with Fr. Monan, Fr. Leahy, and other University leaders to target the areas most meaningful to the family, including academic programming, theater, and student life. Joyce finalized the estate plan before passing away in 2018. Now, the couple's \$75 million record-setting gift will strengthen and expand opportunities at the Heights for the future.

"Paul and Joyce Robsham have left a lasting legacy at Boston College," says Fr. Leahy. "I am grateful for their generosity over the years and its impact on generations of BC students." ■

Please contact us any time at **877-304-SHAW** or **giftplanning@bc.edu**
and we will match you with the right person to discuss your plans.

Season of Transformation

By **Ericka L. Webb**

Director of Gift Planning
BOSTON COLLEGE



Two of my favorite signs of spring are bluer skies and longer days. After the dark winter months, I welcome the sunlight that lingers on the horizon well past dinnertime. It gives me a chance to get back to my early evening walks that allow my mind to wander.

Another way I take advantage of the extra daylight at this time of year is to get organized. Spring cleaning is my favorite chore; there is something cathartic about clearing out the clutter that has accumulated these past few months. Tackling piles and inboxes helps me figure out what I need to save and what's important as I plan for the rest of the year.

In this issue, you will read stories about people whose thoughtful planning and meaningful commitments have helped Boston College shape its future. Our cover highlights the couple whose monumental estate gift will benefit countless Eagles for generations. We will be eternally grateful to Joyce and Paul Robsham for their transformational generosity to the Heights.

We've also included a story on BC Law School alumnus Bob Keefe, JD'72 (who is also a daily walker!). Over the past two unconventional years, Bob took some time to think about what at BC matters most to him. When he learned that a charitable gift



annuity is a rewarding way to support BC, he established not one, but two.

If your springtime rituals bring up questions about how you can make a difference at BC, please let us know. Establishing a gift annuity, bequest, or other planned gift with the Office of Gift Planning can be simple and quick. We're here to work with you to tailor your gift in ways that meet your interests and strengthen the University. Contact us at 877-304-SHAW or giftplanning@bc.edu.

Thank you for all that you do to support Boston College!

Sincerely,

Ericka L. Webb

WE CAN HELP

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

Ericka L. Webb

Director of Gift Planning
617-552-9030
ericka.webb@bc.edu

Joel Carlton-Gysan

Associate Director
617-552-3424
joel.carlton-gysan@bc.edu

Denise Heffron

Associate Director
617-552-8535
denise.heffron@bc.edu

Olivia Osiecki

Assistant Director
617-552-3045
olivia.osiecki@bc.edu

Emily Maggio

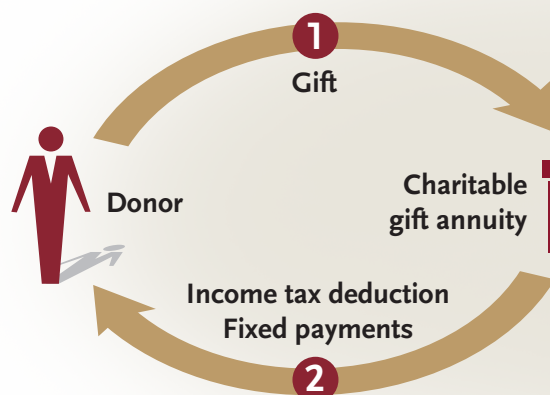
Development Assistant
617-552-3016
emily.maggio@bc.edu

Office of Gift Planning
Cadigan Alumni Center
140 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

877-304-SHAW
bc.edu/giftplanning

HOW DOES A CGA WORK? Read why Robert Keefe, JD'72, knew a CGA was the best option for him. See page 3.

Did You Know...



A charitable gift annuity is a great way to receive income for life and show your support for Boston College.



**BOSTON
COLLEGE**

See for yourself

Use our free online calculator to explore what a charitable gift annuity can do for you:

bc.edu/calculator

Robert Keefe, JD'72

FOR THE GREATER GOOD

A pair of CGAs toward his scholarship fund will impact generations of BC Law students.

In

his pro bono work, he's represented some of the poorest of the poor—and he's seen how unrelenting hard times can wear people down. His cases can be emotionally demanding, but for Robert Keefe, JD'72, senior counsel at WilmerHale in Boston, this is his life's passion.

"The old adage is true: If you love what you do for a living, you'll never work a day in your life," says Keefe. "At WilmerHale, we have a firm commitment to public service and pro bono work, the latter of which has been the most rewarding to me. In these cases, I see people day in and day out just trying to get through life, humans at their best and at their worst, with roadblocks preventing them from moving forward. In every case, I want to help."

Keefe's parents instilled a sense of responsibility in him as a young boy, demonstrating their own commitment to helping others by volunteering in the community in which they lived. He's carried out those early lessons of compassion and service throughout his career and his philanthropy.

"I didn't go into law to make money, but I was fortunate to accumulate some during my lifetime," he says. Several years ago, Keefe established a scholarship fund at Boston College Law School. More recently, he decided a charitable gift annuity (CGA) would be the most tax advantageous option for making his annual gifts to the law school. In addition to providing for future students, Keefe's CGAs provide him with a stream of income for his lifetime and an immediate tax benefit.

"During the pandemic, I thought more about the scholarship fund and how I could further help the next two, three, or four generations of BC Law students get an education," he says. "Establishing a CGA with the Law School was the ideal next step in my philanthropy. BC's Gift Planning team made it easy to set up then and even easier to establish the second one this year."

As a student in the early 1970s, Keefe studied under legendary BC Law instructors such as James Smith, who taught tort law; Emil Slizewski, who taught trusts, estates, and estate planning; and Sanford Fox, who taught juvenile justice. "I had some terrific professors," he says. "All were smart, articulate, and passionate and demanded the highest of all the students. I liked that. If you wanted to excel, you had to work hard and study."

Early in his career, Keefe served as an attorney in the criminal division of the Department of Justice, joining WilmerHale in 1974. Today he is part of the firm's litigation/controversy department and an accomplished member of the white collar defense and investigations practice. In 2021, he was named to *Boston Magazine's* inaugural Top Lawyers list in the area of criminal defense/white collar.



“

Establishing a CGA with the Law School was the ideal next step in my philanthropy. BC's Gift Planning team made it easy to set up then and even easier to establish the second one this year.”

—ROBERT KEEFE

Driven by his belief in the good of humanity, Keefe sees philanthropy as his way to make a difference in the world. "I've been blessed for what I've been able to do during my career," he says. "I also believe that education is the key to solving all problems. It is critical to identifying and solving issues. You never know how a BC Law graduate will make an impact on the world. The more educational opportunities we can give to these young men and women, the better it will be for society." ■

Make a Lasting Impact

Over the years, the Robshams supported BC students' academic, artistic, and social experiences in ways that also provided them with tax benefits. Paul and Joyce collaborated with their financial advisors and BC's gift planning team to create a multifaceted plan that included ways to contribute to the University via a charitable remainder trust, donor-advised fund, a family foundation, and a bequest.

A planned gift of any size to Boston College will leave a legacy. Some allow you to see your gifts in action during your lifetime—and provide you with a regular income.

Whatever your commitment, you will strengthen the BC experience for the next generation of students and join a special tradition of giving at the Heights that advances our mission of educating Eagles for others.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST (CRT)

This contract between you and Boston College provides you with income with growth potential for life or a specified period of time. After your lifetime, BC will receive the remainder of the gift. You can take a charitable deduction the year in which you make your gift and reduce or eliminate your estate taxes.

DONOR-ADVISED FUND (DAF)

You can establish a donor-advised fund and use it to support BC. When you contribute cash, securities, or other assets to a donor-advised fund, you are generally eligible to take a tax deduction.

BEQUEST

Including BC in your will or trust is a simple way to support Boston College. You can accomplish this by giving a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate, or by leaving a specific asset—stocks, mutual funds, real estate, or other property. You can also add an amendment or codicil at any time to an existing will or trust.

FAMILY OR PRIVATE FOUNDATION

A family or private foundation can support BC and also provide you with an immediate tax deduction when you contribute to the foundation.

NEXT STEPS

Contact the Office of Gift Planning at 866-304-SHAW or at giftplanning@bc.edu to start the process, ask questions, and get personalized calculations. Try our gift calculator at bc.edu/calculator.



BOSTON COLLEGE News & Notes

SCIENCE FACILITY NOW OPEN

A new home for science and innovation opened on campus in January. This 150,000-sq. ft., state-of-the-art facility, with its sweeping views, houses the Schiller Institute for Integrated Science and Society, BC's new engineering department, the computer science department, and the Shea Center for Entrepreneurship.

"The beautiful new facility will quickly emerge as a hub for student and faculty engagement at the frontiers of science and technology," says David Quigley, Provost and Dean of Faculties.

Connected to Higgins Hall, which is home to the biology and physics departments, and adjacent to the Merkert Chemistry Center, the new facility includes a mix of maker spaces,

classrooms and collaboration spaces, teaching labs, an auditorium, and a café. Built with glass facades to let in natural light, the layout promotes a climate of creativity and innovation for faculty and students.



For more information, visit bc.edu/245-beacon-open.

GIFT HONORS LYNCH SCHOOL PROFESSOR MARY WALSH



Through an anonymous \$10 million gift, the Center for Optimized Student Support has been renamed the Mary E. Walsh Center for Thriving Children in honor of the Lynch School of Education and Human Development professor who founded the program three decades ago. Under the direction of Walsh, who is the Daniel E. Kearns Professor in Urban Education and Innovative Leadership, the center and its signature initiative, City Connects, have grown to serve 45,000 students annually in public, charter, and Catholic schools in Massachusetts and other states, as well as Dublin, Ireland. A program has also been adapted to serve students at an Ohio community college.

"This transformative gift ensures we will be able to sustain our work and broaden our efforts in the future," said Walsh, who

has been a BC faculty member since 1989. "It is a tremendous honor to all the members of our team over the years, our site coordinators, thousands of educators, and community partners who have been instrumental in this work. We are thrilled and delighted."

Stanton Wortham, Charles F. Donovan, S.J., Dean at the Lynch School, praised Walsh for building an exceptional program that has changed life for tens of thousands of children. "She conceptualized it, raised funds for it, built it, and commissioned research that shows it is both successful and extremely cost-effective. Her consistent focus on developing the whole child fits wonderfully with the BC mission of formative education. This gift will ensure that Mary's program will continue to benefit children, across the United States and beyond, well into the future."

For more information, visit bc.edu/walsh-center-gift.

THE SHAW SOCIETY

GIFT PLANNING | BOSTON COLLEGE

Welcome New Members

100 alumni, parents, and friends have made planned gifts to Boston College since our last issue of *Bookmarks*. We are proud to recognize their support with membership in the University's prestigious Shaw Society.

Anonymous (8)
Stephen Ahearn '85
Mary Jane Angelone '65
Kate Ascione '93, P'25
Mike Ascione '93, P'25
Harry Attridge '67
Janis Attridge
Norman Baker, JD'63*
Patricia Baker
Thomas Barry '70, JD'73
Jim Boylan, P'19
Lisa Boylan, P'19
Bob Budic '69
Elaine Burns NC'74
John Cashman '71
Tom Claffey '66, P'04
Colin Coleman, JD'87
Mary Coleman
Tom Connolly, JD'69

Claudia Daileader '66
Philip Daileader '66
Eugene Dessureau
Miriam Dessureau '56, P'81
Pat DeVito '71, MEd'72,
PhD'76
Patricia Devito
Wendy Estela '97
Dennis Farrington '63
Christina Feicht '81
Barbara Felkel '65
Robert Felkel '65, MA'68
Catherine Flanagan '90, P'22
Larkin Flanagan '90, P'22
Barbara Hadad
Louis Hadad, MBA'69
Ernest Hanes
Okhoo Hanes, JD'80
John Hannan, EX'53*

Priscilla Hansen '79*
Peter Klapes '19, MA'22
Tom Kniffen '75
John Kozarich '71
Marcia Kozarich
Bethany Lee, P'18
Thomas Loftus '45, P'81*
Stacey Mackay
John Madigan '72, P'04, '06
Marion Madigan, P'04, '06
Teresa Mazzulli*
RoseAnne McCusker*
Jack Memishian
Rodney Morrison '59, MA'61*
Alexander Myer, P'25
Kristina Myer, P'25
Jay Nannicelli '67
Kathie Nannicelli '68
Maureen O'Connell*

Robert O'Leary '51*
Kevin O'Malley '92
Vanessa O'Malley '94
Olivia Osiecki
Jacquelyn Ott, MEd'82
Margie Palladino, JD'85
Joseph Parker, JD'69
Brent Peacock '91
Michelle Peffen '18
Mary Perry '81, JD'87, P'19
Ed Pla '85, P'20
Laura Pla, P'20
Mary Rafferty
Frances Reilly '58
Gerald Reilly '59, MEd'60
Jerrold Reilly '69
Amy Rockett '88
Peter Rockett '83
James Ronan, MA'67*

John Ryan '50*
Sharon Ryan, JD'85
William Ryan
Kim Sachse, JD'89
Mary Shea*
Kathleen Siegert, P'10, '12, '14, '17, '23
Tom Siegert '80, P'10, '12, '14, '17, '23
Marlo Studley '14
Anna Tanner*
Kenneth Tilton '02
Laura Tilton '02
Anne Tippet '79, JD'86*
Tracy Tufillaro '77*
Eugene Twomey '58*
Gail Viscione
Jerry Viscione '65
April Watson
Tim Watson '95

To add your name, contact the Office of Gift Planning at **1-877-304-SHAW**.

*Deceased

OFFICE OF GIFT PLANNING
CADIGAN ALUMNI CENTER
140 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
CHESTNUT HILL, MA 02467-3808
BC.EDU/GIFTPLANNING

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MA
PERMIT NO. 55294

INTERESTED IN LIFE INCOME?

Read about Charitable
Gift Annuities inside



EXPLORE OUR Gift Planning Website

bc.edu/giftplanning

In addition to reading *Bookmarks* newsletters, you'll get convenient access to:

Interactive tools: gift calculator and tools to help you discover your best plan option

Resources: free estate planning guide, recorded webinars, frequently asked questions, and much more

News and research: tax law updates, news blogs, and the latest from the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College

