

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FOUNDATION



# Insights

WINTER 2023

## Good Fortune Inspires Gift

Growing up in a relatively poor family in Marshalltown, Iowa, **Ron McClellan '61** knew his parents wouldn't be able to help him pay for college. He also realized the \$160 he earned each month from his summer job as a golf caddy master wouldn't last long.

"However, I had naively enrolled at Iowa State," he said. **"I felt destined to become an Iowa State engineering student** in eighth grade after scoring very well on some special tests that I did for Louise Collieran, my math teacher. I really had no idea what an engineer did and had never known one at that time."

Thankfully, he decided to give it a go anyway.

### TAKING THE LEAP

McClellan went on to earn a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Iowa State in 1961 and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of New Mexico in 1963, after which he pursued a career filled with achievement. He worked as a mechanical engineer at places like Sandia Corporation in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Livermore, California, and Ford Aerospace in Palo Alto, California, where he retired at the age of 55.

His professional success is due in large part to the foundation he built at Iowa State, made possible by the financial support he received. McClellan explained that Ray Engel, a former head of engineering at Fisher Governor Company, had established two full-ride scholarships each year for Marshalltown High School seniors.



I hope it helps them go into the workforce without a big debt hanging over their head. That [level of debt] was not something that happened when I was that age."

– RON McCLELLAN

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# Good Fortune Inspires Gift

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“Much to my surprise, I was awarded one of these in 1957,” he said. **“Because of my good fortune, I wanted to give back in the future and began my own scholarship at Iowa State in 1983.”**

## GOOD BEGETS GOOD

In the decades since, the Ronald E. McClellan Scholarship has benefitted many senior students in the department of mechanical engineering at Iowa State.

“I hope it helps them go into the workforce without a big debt hanging over their head,” he said of the impact he wants the scholarship to have on students. “That [level of debt] was not something that happened when I was that age.”

In 2019, McClellan added a significant gift to his estate plan that will fund the scholarship in perpetuity and **provide him with some income in return.**



→  
Read more about the positive effect Ron had on recent Iowa State graduate Ashlyn Haack.



*“I now feel that I can have a positive effect on Iowa State long after I am gone.”*

– RON McCLELLAN '61

## Build Your Wealth With Help

Choosing and meeting with a financial advisor can be overwhelming. Our new complimentary brochure, **Your Guide to Working With a Financial Advisor**, outlines the steps to take as you begin your relationship with your advisor and what you can expect, to help ease your mind. **To get yours, complete and return the enclosed reply form today.**



# Your Legacy, Made Simple

## *Do you want to change the world?*

It's an easy question. *Of course* you want to make a difference. *Of course* you want to safeguard what matters most to you – the core values that have shaped your life and given it rich meaning are the root of the legacy you wish to leave behind.

But while the sentiment is easy to muster, it isn't always easy to act upon. If you, like fellow Cyclone Ron McClellan, care deeply about keeping the Iowa State University experience affordable and accessible for every Cyclone, you can ensure your passion lives on far into the future.

There's a way to ensure that your values continue to make an impact at Iowa State, and it's as easy as making your intentions known with just a single sentence. Plus, it does not cost you anything now. Instead, it allows you to take savings you have accrued over time and put it to good use.

**HINT:** You can also designate multiple beneficiaries by giving each a percentage so that your gift protects loved ones and your favorite causes.

## **THE FOLLOWING ASSETS ALLOW YOU TO DESIGNATE A BENEFICIARY OR BENEFICIARIES:**

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- Retirement plans
- Individual retirement accounts (IRAs)
- Life insurance policies
- Donor advised funds
- Bank or brokerage accounts

The legacy you leave behind could help pave the way for Cyclones to identify and explore their passions, bring exciting ideas to life and make their communities and the world a better place. The options are as endless as your generosity.

## *Notify Your Beneficiaries*

Once you have created your gift, make sure you share the good news with the people you name on your form. Financial institutions often assume no responsibility to inform or administer a gift to beneficiaries.





# Enjoy Income for Life

Whether you are approaching or are in your retirement years, you may be wondering how you can ensure that you don't outlive your assets. There are multiple ways to support Iowa State and receive income payouts in return. If you're looking for this type of option, a charitable gift annuity (CGA) might be a good fit for you. This gift supports you now and Iowa State University after your lifetime.

## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

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- 1 You give cash or other assets to Iowa State through the Iowa State University Foundation.
- 2 We pay you a fixed amount each year for the rest of your life.
- 3 The amount remaining after your lifetime remaining after your lifetime secures the Iowa State experience for Cyclones.

**Why do this now? Payout rates are higher now than they have been in 10 years!**

You will also enjoy tax benefits at the time of the gift and on future payouts. There are additional benefits if you give appreciated stock, including eliminating capital gains tax on a portion of the gift.

You can have peace of mind knowing the amount you'll receive each year will not change, regardless of a fluctuating market.

## INCOME FOR OTHERS

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The gift annuity can be for one or two people, so you can include your spouse or another loved one as a recipient of the payouts. You can also make the gift in someone's name and they will receive the payments for their lifetime.

\* *Remember, you can get more information about planning and giving options by completing the enclosed reply form.*

**California residents: Annuities are subject to regulation by the State of California. Payments under such agreements, however, are not protected or otherwise guaranteed by any government agency or the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association. Oklahoma residents: A charitable gift annuity is not regulated by the Oklahoma Insurance Department and is not protected by a guaranty association affiliated with the Oklahoma Insurance Department. South Dakota residents: Charitable gift annuities are not regulated by and are not under the jurisdiction of the South Dakota Division of Insurance.**



# THE LOVE OF LEARNING

The **Ronald E. McClellan Scholarship** allowed Ashlyn Haack to commit to diverse academic and extracurricular activities, explore leadership opportunities, set educational goals and begin her career – without being burdened by student debt.

Recent Iowa State University graduate **Ashlyn Haack '22** loves learning new things.

From glass blowing and playing the organ to helping design solar cars, she enjoyed developing a wide range of skills as a student.

“One of my favorite parts about Iowa State was the opportunity to learn and try out so many different activities,” said Haack, who is the recipient of the Ronald E. McClellan Scholarship.

She helped found the Theme Park Engineering Group, sang in the Cantamus Women’s choir, organized membership for the Student Carillon Leadership Council, led the piccolo section in the marching band, volunteered with FIRST Lego League, won the three-versus-three intramural soccer championship along with her team and was a member of the Homecoming court.

Her areas of study were nearly as diverse as her activities.

“I chose mechanical engineering because I have always enjoyed my math and science classes. Engineering combines those with a focus on applying them to solve practical problems and increase people’s quality of life,” explained Haack, who was a member

of the Society of Women Engineers, Women in Mechanical Engineering and Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. With a passion for music and developing new creative skills, she pursued two minors, one in music and the other in music technology.

All these activities enriched her Iowa State experience, helped her build lasting friendships and give her an advantage in her current career. “I have learned how to communicate and connect with many different people in both technical and casual conversations.”

She is putting these skills to use as a product designer in the Marine division at Garmin, a GPS technology company. In the future, she hopes to return to higher education to pursue a doctorate and become a professor of engineering acoustics.

Haack said donor support freed her from financial worries while at Iowa State and allowed her to focus on her studies, take more challenging classes, accept additional leadership roles and broaden her knowledge and experiences.

**“[Donor support] had an impact on all of the different aspects of my life at Iowa State,”** said Haack, who added that one day she hopes to pay it forward.

Learn about creating a scholarship for Cyclone students by calling the office of gift planning at 800.621.8515 or visiting [isugift.org](http://isugift.org).

# What Does Giving Mean to You?

Have you ever thought about how you feel when you help someone in need? It feels good, even when it's a little thing like giving to someone's online fundraiser.

Giving doesn't just benefit the recipient, it benefits you.

There's a way to give that requires a little more thought and planning, but the rewards can be even greater: Designating a gift in your will.

## WHEN YOU GIVE THROUGH YOUR WILL, YOU ARE MORE...



### Contemplative

When you decide to help others through your will, you are also planning for your future. This is the ultimate "me time" – your chance to reflect on your life and your values, then consider how you want to use your assets to help the people and the causes that you care about the most.



### Happy

Helping others be happy makes you happy, too. Numerous studies describe the "warm glow" effect and "helper's high" you experience when you give, the result of chemicals such as endorphins and oxytocin coursing through your veins. Your blood pressure and stress levels may drop.



### Grateful

Those who benefit from your giving will no doubt be thankful, but you may find yourself feeling a sense of gratitude, too. When you reflect on your life and the people and causes you love, you'll recall all those who supported you – the heroes in your life's story.



### Connected

When you donate to an organization like the Iowa State University Foundation in your will, you become part of a family. You become a critical link in a chain of compassion. This collective show of strength can inspire others to join you.

## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

The Iowa State Foundation is acknowledged by Iowa State University as the preferred channel for administering trust and estate gifts that benefit the university. This is accomplished by using the name Iowa State University Foundation in your legal documents. Please contact the foundation for additional information.

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[www.isugift.org](http://www.isugift.org)

## HOW TO REMEMBER IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST

Share the following language with your estate planning attorney to add the Iowa State University Foundation to your will or living trust.

*I give, devise and bequeath to the Iowa State University Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation existing under the laws of the State of Iowa and located at Ames, Iowa, \_\_\_\_\_ (percent of my estate, dollars, property, securities, etc.) to be used for \_\_\_\_\_ (however you wish for your gift to be used) at Iowa State University.*