The St. Ignatius Legacy Society was established to recognize and honor benefactors who have created personal legacies at Marquette through an estate provision or planned gift. These individuals have demonstrated their commitment to the future of the university through gifts that preserve the tradition of excellence at Marquette.

The generosity of St. Ignatius Legacy Society members makes an enduring imprint on the university and serves as a profound vote of confidence in Marquette's mission of educating men and women for others. These philanthropic leaders also serve as examples to others who are considering making planned gifts to Marquette.

A planned gift presents an extraordinary opportunity to honor a loved one, an inspiring professor, or a field of study that has made an impact on your life. You can create a legacy that takes into account your family's needs, reflects your values and gives back to future generations.

Planned Giving
WITH MARQUETTE
Giving Back  Dr. Nick Negro

“My dad felt very strongly that our mission in life is to give back.”

As Michael Negro, ’83, reflects on life with his father, Marquette professor emeritus Dr. Nick Negro, he says, “Aside from being just a super dad, he and my mother incorporated three elements in our lives: family, the Catholic Church and Marquette University.”

Nick taught mechanical engineering at Marquette from 1965 to 2007. A Marquette parent and men’s basketball season ticket holder, Nick was a frequent hoops player who visited the courts at the Rec Center three to four times a week for nearly 50 years. A fierce competitor, he loved playing basketball but also loved the community of players he found at the Rec Center and the friendships that were formed.

Nick, who passed away last December, was also a St. Ignatius Legacy Society member who included Marquette as a beneficiary of his CREF retirement plan. His planned gift was designated for an endowed scholarship in the Opus College of Engineering. Michael says his father talked frequently, and passionately, about his dream of building a scholarship that would help the next generation of kids — specifically engineering students — who couldn’t afford a school like Marquette.

Creating a Legacy of Love

“We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill

From our earliest days as a nation, Americans have demonstrated a remarkable spirit of generosity. As a nation, we give more to charitable organizations each year than any other country in the world. Through our philanthropy, we have built remarkable educational institutions, cured deadly diseases, and continued to fund research and facilities dedicated to improving health. Our generosity also funds religious, environmental and social efforts, yet the vast majority of Americans are not able to give as much as they would like.

The truth is that although many of us are limited by the realities of a day-to-day budget, a little careful planning today makes it possible for almost anyone to do more in the future to help loved ones, including family and friends, as well as favorite nonprofit organizations.

The most frequent types of gifts that are made through a will or trust include:

- **A Fixed Bequest**
  This is the gift of a fixed dollar amount to a family member, friend or charity.

- **A Specified Percentage**
  Many people divide their estate by percentages, leaving a specific percentage, such as 10 percent or 20 percent, to be divided among a named list of recipients.