

# planning difference

A publication from Queen's Office of Gift Planning



Spring 2021

## Engineering an education into success and support



Dr. Douglas Leng and his wife, Marguerite, on their wedding day

r. Douglas Leng has been a generous supporter of Queen's University\* throughout his life and has arranged for a bequest for the University in addition to his annual giving. Over the last couple of years, Dr. Leng has also increased his donations to Queen's Chemical Engineering Trust Fund by making qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from his IRA.

#### Q: Please tell us a little bit about your life.

**Dr. Leng:** My parents immigrated from England in 1918 and first came to the U.S. before they moved to Windsor and then to Kitchener. I

was born in 1928 and grew up in Kitchener as an only child. I was good at math and science in high school. I liked hockey, collected stamps, enjoyed reading.

I wanted to serve my country in World War II as a pilot in the Air Force but had deficient vision and was not eligible. During the war, my parents entertained British troops. Dad would play the piano, and Mom would sing.

#### Q: What was your time at Queen's like?

**Dr. Leng:** I attended Queen's from 1947 to 1951, BSC'51 (CHEE), and from 1951 to 1953 for my master's degree in chemical engineering, (MSC'53). I had summer jobs in a brewery bottling plant (Carling in Kitchener) and at Seagram's in the laboratory doing semi-biological work. I also worked at the Babcock & Wilcox engineering company one summer.

I dated girls, went dancing and participated in sports while I wasn't studying for school.

#### Q: And what was your life after you left Queen's?

**Dr. Leng:** After Queen's, I attended Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, where I earned my PhD in 1955. While in grad school, I met the love of my life, Marguerite Lambert, who earned her PhD from Purdue in biochemistry.

(continued on inside panel)

## The QCD: a tax-wise way to give

If you are age 70½ or older, you may make gifts directly from individual retirement accounts (IRAs) to Queen's University.\* These are called qualified charitable distributions (QCDs).

#### Why is a QCD such a good giving option?

- Giving directly from your IRA—rather than withdrawing these funds—won't increase your adjusted gross income or subject your Social Security income to more taxes.
- Such gifts can count toward all or part of your annual required minimum distribution (RMD).
- QCD gifts can be especially advantageous for those who do not expect to itemize their deductions and for those whose deductions are limited.
- You may make QCD gifts in any amount up to \$100,000 per person per year or \$200,000 for a couple with separate IRAs. Because of recent tax law changes, you may be able to continue to add to an IRA after age 70½. If this is your situation, the amount of QCD gifts you can make will be reduced.\*\*

#### Can I do this with other retirement plan assets?

- The QCD is only possible with an IRA. It is possible to roll funds from other retirement plans into IRAs in order to take advantage of a QCD.
- Some people choose to simply make charitable gifts with their retirement plan withdrawals—whether IRA, 401(k), 403(b) or other similar arrangements. When doing this, you will recognize income on your tax return, but the amount of your gift is deductible.

As with all charitable and tax planning, individual situations vary. It is important to seek guidance from a qualified professional when arranging a QCD gift.

\*Please check back page of this newsletter. \*\*As a result of the SECURE Act, if an individual with earned income continues to make deductible contributions to an IRA beyond age 70½, the individual's maximum QCD amount will be reduced by the amount of deduction claimed for an IRA contribution.

## Estate planning idea

Onsider making Queen's University\* the beneficiary of a retirement plan. When you leave the balance of a retirement account to your loved ones, they must carefully manage the account to avoid losing its tax-deferred status and prevent triggering large income taxes and penalties. You can simplify matters for your loved ones by directing all or a portion of what remains in your retirement accounts to charity and leaving other more tax-favored assets to heirs.





## Giving from the heart

Although few people are blessed with a perfect memory, many of us recall a priceless friendship that enriched our lives and inspired us to achieve. Regardless of whether it was a spouse, parent, brother, sister, treasured friend or favorite professor, chances are that person's influence still lives on today.

#### Why not share?

Sometimes words just aren't enough to convey appreciation for such strong and enduring relationships. What better way to honor the memory of a loved one than by furthering charitable interests you may have shared? Such thoughtfulness can also encourage others to make provisions for present and future needs.

#### Honor your loved ones

Remember, too, that a gift may also be made in honor of a parent, friend or other loved one on Mother's Day, Father's Day, at the birth of a child or grandchild, on a birthday, wedding, anniversary, graduation—virtually any time you wish to show how much you care.

#### All gifts are welcome

Is there someone you would wish to honor in such a caring and lasting way? There are a variety of giving methods that can fit into existing financial and estate plans with ease. We will be pleased to recommend creative memorial giving ideas that express your admiration in just the right way.

For more information on making memorial gifts or bequests, please contact us. We will be happy to discuss such gifts with you or your financial advisor.



## Remembering mothers

#### The Phyllis M. Camm Memorial Scholarship

After Phyllis Marion (Hough) Camm, BA'44 (Honours), died of cancer at the age of 49, her husband, Robert Wendell Camm, established a scholarship at Queen's University in 1971 in her memory. Additional contributions to the scholarship were also made by her parents, family, friends,



Phyllis M. Camm, Arts'44

neighbours and colleagues. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic excellence to students entering the fourth year of a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree with a major or medial plan in English. The spirit of the scholarship highlights many of the things that made Phyllis' life so worth celebrating—her love of Queen's, her high scholastic achievement aided by her work ethic, her career as a high school English teacher and her lifelong belief in giving.

In 2016, Phyllis' children, Marion, BA'70, MA'71, BEd'72; Frank, BA'73, MPA'74; and Richard, BA'75, MBA (Western) '77, made further philanthropic commitments to the scholarship. "We her children, all Queen's grads, are delighted to have been able to reshape her original scholarship and endow it at a higher level to support and encourage new generations of students at her beloved alma mater."



Barrie Gilbert as a young professor at Utah State University

#### The Lorraine Gilbert Bursary

In their estate plans, Barrie, BA'62, and Katherine Gilbert, BA'63, have thoughtfully arranged to create The Lorraine Gilbert Bursary—an endowed bursary to provide financial support for students who are dependents of Queen's employees. Barrie was encouraged and inspired by his mother, Lorraine Gilbert, and says, "I would like to honour my mother for all she did in encouraging academics, reading and word choice."

Barrie was surrounded by great literature growing up. His grandfather was a successful Kingston grocer, John Nathan Gilbert, who had lived in the iconic Bellevue House for about 50 years, and Barrie recalls, "My bedroom had a wall of my grandpa's books, including leather-bound copies of Dickens and Shakespeare." After Barrie's father died suddenly in 1954, his mother went to work at Queen's—first in the Office of the Registrar, under the leadership of Jean Royce and, subsequently, as a secretary for the Department of Classics. Barrie's mother played an instrumental role in arranging for him to meet with Jean Royce after he "flunked out" of engineering. Not only did this meeting result in Barrie switching his focus to biology, but he subsequently went on to earn a PhD in zoology from Duke University.

# Engineering an education into success ... (continued from cover)

We married and took jobs with Dow Chemical in Midland, Michigan. At Dow, I enjoyed a 41-year career, mostly in research and development. I retired in 1996 after achieving the highest technical rank in the company. We raised three successful children, who gave us nine grandchildren.

My wife and I co-founded a curling rink with some other Canadians in Midland, bringing a special part of Canada to our community. We also took up sailing and had many fond memories of cruises in the North Channel of Ontario.

# Q: Are there particular experiences from Queen's that impacted your life?

**Dr. Leng:** Queen's prepared me for graduate studies at Purdue (PhD not offered at Queen's at the time). I earned a scholarship that helped me to complete my journey to a PhD, encouraged by one of my professors. I also did research work for my master's in vapour liquid equilibrium and thermodynamics that proved very useful to my employer.

It was a happy experience, and I received a very good education at Queen's. One of the things I liked was that I was able to switch from engineering to chemistry, or I could have become a geochemist. Versatility and the ability to switch my field of study was a big benefit.



# Royal Legacy Society

The Royal Legacy Society recognizes those alumni and friends who have thoughtfully remembered Queen's University through a bequest or other future gift commitment.

If you have already remembered Queen's in your estate plans, please let us know so that we can honour your intention.

For more information on the Royal Legacy Society, please visit our website at queensu.ca/alumni/rls.

We look forward to welcoming you.

#### Maximize your IRA

An IRA plays an important role in the financial lives of many because it is a terrific savings and financial tool. We offer the practical booklet, "Maximize Your IRA," which focuses on such topics as types of IRAs, qualified charitable distributions from IRAs and how to leave IRAs to charitable organizations in your estate plan. Just send in the remit envelope to receive a complimentary copy of this publication.

# Visit Queen's University's redesigned alumni website

To learn more about various ways to donate to Queen's University, receive financial and estate planning tips and read profiles of our donors, please visit our redesigned gift-planning website at queensu.ca/alumni/giftplanning.



#### planning makes a difference



## An everlasting gift with 'principal'

An endowment gift can be made to a wide variety of charitable organizations and institutions, such as Queen's University.\* It may pay tribute to a special person or family. An endowment gift can be made as:

- An outright gift during life.
- A deferred gift (such as a bequest through a will or trust).
- A combination of both (such as a bequest that is added to an outright gift).

#### How does it work?

In general, the *principal* remains untouched in order to bring perpetual financial stability to the charitable beneficiary. A portion of the investment return from an endowment provides a source of income that funds scholarships, academic chairs, book funds, lectureships as well as a diverse range of university programs as directed by the individual endowment terms.

#### Coordinate with professionals

Our gift planning staff can provide you with bequest wording that you can share with your attorney to establish a new endowed fund or direct support to an existing endowment in your will.

#### \*Residents of the United States

U.S.-based alumni and relatives can make donations, including bequests, directly to the university under the *Canada-United States Income Tax Convention*. Matching gifts, gifts from other American citizens or residents, or gifts from corporations, foundations, trusts and IRA accounts should be directed to the U.S. Foundation for Queen's University at Kingston (Employer ID 52-1960422). Our U.S. Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization recognized under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.



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