

LEGACY



A Newsletter of Azusa Pacific University’s Office of Gift and Estate Planning

January 2010 • Volume 2, Number 2



A Legacy of Love

by Fran Newman, Ph.D.

As a very young girl growing up on a family farm in Iowa, Shila Wiebe always knew exactly what she wanted to do with her life. Her goal was to become a nurse and serve the Lord in some type of mission work. The dream of becoming a nurse was fulfilled at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Shila’s mission journey took her to Taiwan for two years and to the Los Angeles County School of Nursing for 11 years, before she dedicated 26 years to teaching in the School of Nursing at Azusa Pacific University (APU). In each step of her career, Shila introduced Jesus as the model and lifestyle for caring for people, stressed excellence in all work, and encouraged students to minister in the community. She attributed so much to the strength of her parents, who instilled in her Christian values, a strong work ethic, and a desire to obtain a college education, which they did not have.

“Many students would not be at APU today if it weren’t for scholarships.”

At APU, Shila had the privilege of teaching her favorite subjects in medical surgical nursing, which included courses in oncology, gerontology, and pharmacology. She believed the courses she taught laid the foundation for the specialties in nursing.

“APU is included in my living trust because I agree with their philosophy of ‘God First,’ the priorities that are set by the leadership of the university, especially faith integration, and how faculty are encouraged to provide care for students,” said Shila. “It’s the whole Christian environment we experience at APU.”

“At APU, the faculty affirm each other’s accomplishments. It’s beautiful. You just don’t find that every place,” she added. “I would highly recommend to my friends to invest in APU because the greatest reward is that you are sharing in God’s work, and it’s a very safe place to invest your money.”

Although semi-retired from APU, Shila still stayed in touch with students, especially those in mission work and the military. They would share with her their joys,

heartbreaks, visions, and accomplishments in the nursing field from around the world.

“The greatest strength of APU, in addition to the motto of ‘God First,’ is the priority of excellence across the campus in teaching, administration, and lifestyle,” Shila said. “Going out into the community and providing care, opportunities, and evangelism are so important to the university today. Our diverse communities need us.”

Shila’s main focus for her investment in APU was scholarships for undergraduate nursing students. “Many students would not be at APU today if it weren’t for scholarships,” she said. “Another project I would like my investment to contribute to is a new state-of-the-art nursing building. We need more space, even though the beautiful new science building is gracious in letting us share some of their space.”

Throughout her life, Shila demonstrated a willingness to follow God wherever He led. She lived by the verse in Proverbs 3:5–7: “Trust in the Lord with all of your heart. Lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear the Lord and shun evil.”

On October 23, 2009, when this story interview was conducted, Shila’s face radiated with Christian joy as she shared her story. **However, the APU family was shocked and stricken with grief when the news broke that she unexpectedly passed away on November 30.**

Shila fulfilled her dream as a young girl of serving the Lord in many different types of mission work. We are so thankful that her mission journey brought her to APU for more than a quarter of a century as a faculty member, leader, and dear friend. She served with extreme Christian dedication to APU in and out of the classroom, and always exemplified Jesus as her model.

Although many didn’t get to say goodbye, we know that Shila’s legacy of love will live on through her gifts, her excellence in teaching, her compassion for students, and most of all, her love and commitment to her savior, Jesus Christ.

Savvy Senior: Volunteerism

Dear Savvy Senior,
My husband and I have just retired and are thinking about our goals for the new year. Personally, I would like for both of us to get involved in some type of volunteer work. What are some of the benefits of volunteerism?
- Hope to Volunteer

Dear Hope to Volunteer,
Volunteering is a great activity for social involvement, and makes a positive and satisfying contribution to your community. Here are some things that you should know.

Live Happier, Healthier Lives

There’s no doubt that volunteering is a good thing. Through volunteer service, you not only strengthen and improve the quality of life within your community, you can also help yourself and others to live happier, healthier, and more productive lives. In fact, several studies suggest that seniors who volunteer regularly actually live longer and have fewer medical problems.

Connect and Engage with Community

Studies show the “Greatest Generation” is more connected with their communities than other age groups. One way to get more involved and engaged in volunteer activities is to discover the vast opportunities that are available and how you can help. Take a look at some of the resources and opportunities in your own community. This will help you find your niche.

Gain Satisfaction by Helping Others

There are many ways that you can gain satisfaction by helping others. Here are just a few: tutor children with learning disabilities, organize a neighborhood watch program, build homes for the homeless, teach English to immigrants, or assist victims of natural disasters. To learn about volunteer opportunities with our organization, please visit our website at www.apugifts.org or give us a call at (888) 865-9769. We look forward to working with you as you assist us in our efforts.

Copyright © 2006 Crescendo Interactive, Inc. ID21006



Get Involved!



Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

- ☐ Send me information on how to remember APU in my will or trust.
- ☐ Send me information on how to receive income for life through a gift annuity.
- ☐ I have remembered APU in my estate plan.
- ☐ Send me the free “Better Estate Planning” brochure.

Creating a Legacy of Love through a Bequest

Winston Churchill once said, “We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.” From our earliest days as a nation, Americans have demonstrated a remarkable spirit of generosity. Each year, Americans give more than any other country in the world.

Philanthropy has built remarkable educational institutions, cured deadly diseases, and continues to fund research and facilities dedicated to our health. Our generosity also funds religious, environmental, and social efforts from sea to shining sea. Yet, the vast majority of Americans are not able to give as much as they would like. The truth is that while many 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 those they love, including family, friends, and charity. The most frequent gifts made in 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 as to be divided among a named list.
- **A gift of a specific asset:** On some occasions, gifts of a parcel of real estate or a block of stock help fulfill a desired objective to give to family, friends, or charity.
- **A residual gift:** Specific bequests are often given to family members, and the remainder of the estate is divided equally among a variety of charitable causes.
- **Gift in trust:** There are a number of appropriate ways to leave a gift in trust. For example, a trust can provide a surviving family with income for life, with the remainder going to charity after the death of the survivor. Alternatively, a trust may provide income to charity for a prescribed number of years, with the remainder ultimately going to a family member.

Winston Churchill left us with a legacy for life that has brought enormous benefit to future generations. For more information on how you can leave a lasting legacy, please contact our Office of Gift and Estate Planning.

Financial Outlook

Improving Your Investment Returns

Moving from a CD to a gift annuity can prove beneficial.

Age	Rate
60	5.0%
65	5.3%
70	5.7%
75	6.3%
80	7.1%
85	8.1%
90	9.1%

To learn how you can improve your investment returns, simply call the Office of Gift and Estate Planning at (888) 865-9769.



Investing in APU *by Fran Newman, Ph.D.*

“Azusa Pacific University is rated very high on my list. I can’t think of a better investment for God’s money. It is a university with a commitment to the Lord.” These are the first words you hear when Irene Hill begins talking about APU. “I’ve always loved God and remember at the age of 7 making a commitment to Christ at my church,” she said. “I feel like I’ve been saved all of my life.” Irene continues to attend the Free Methodist Church, where she grew up and met her husband-to-be, Paul, at age 12. They married when they were 20. Irene and her husband were students at Los Angeles Pacific College in 1953, just a few years before the merger of Los Angeles Pacific College and Azusa Pacific College took place.

Irene knows the meaning of tragedy, as the lives of her husband, her only son, and daughter were cut short through accidents and illnesses. However, she finds a deep satisfaction in her Christian beliefs, her strong interest in biblical prophecy, and in the joy of sharing and giving. Several years ago, Irene established a life estate, which has given her significant tax savings, and also a gift annuity that provides income for life with more than half of that income tax free. “It’s the best investment I have ever made, and I want my donations to be used where needed,” she said. “I know it will always be used for a good cause.”

Stay in Your Home and Receive a Charitable Tax Deduction *Life Estate*

If your goal is not more income, but the ability to live in your home and receive a current tax deduction, a life estate may be the plan for you. With a life estate, you deed your home to charity, but reserve the right to continue using it for life. You benefit from a current charitable tax deduction for the value of your gift, and we receive your home in the future.



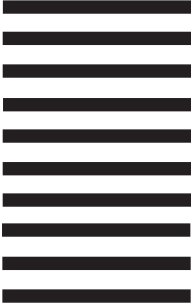
NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 15 AZUSA CA

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Office of Gift and Estate Planning-79110
Azusa Pacific University
PO Box 7000
Azusa, CA 91702-9959



Office of Gift and Estate Planning

To learn more about how you can benefit through giving, contact Azusa Pacific University’s Office of Gift and Estate Planning.

- CALL

(888) 865-9769
- CLICK

www.apugifts.org
- EMAIL

stewardship@apu.edu

