



## **An Easy Way to Fund Your Legacy: Through Your Retirement Plan**

Many people choose to leave a percentage of their IRA or other retirement asset to charity as a simple and smart way to fulfill a legacy commitment.

### **Why Does This Make Sense?**

1. You can always take money out of your IRA or other retirement asset to cover your needs for the rest of your life. Your legacy gift will be funded with whatever is leftover in the IRA or other retirement fund asset.
2. There is no cost to changing your beneficiaries, and it is as easy as filling out a form. Your plan administrator can provide a beneficiary designation form also called a “Transfer on Death” or TOD form. Many of these changes can be made online.
3. If life circumstances change, you can revise your beneficiary designations at any time, without penalty.
4. You designate percentages of what’s left (and not a specific amount), so you will maintain the same relative gifts to Carleton and your heirs, regardless of changes in account value over time.
5. Many people only take the minimum annual withdrawal from their IRA after age 70 ½ because they have to pay taxes on what they withdraw. As a result, there is often a substantial amount left in their IRAs at death. If left to one’s heirs, considerable income and estate taxes may be due; however, if left to a Carleton or other charities, there are no taxes incurred.

Your plan administrator or Carleton College’s 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Office staff, Kelly Rowan or Sarah Forster at 1-866-208-3889 or [50threunion@carleton.edu](mailto:50threunion@carleton.edu) can help answer your questions.

*As with all estate planning matters it is advisable to consult with your professional advisor with regard to your overall plan.*

## Designating Carleton as a Beneficiary of a Retirement Plan

### As a Beneficiary of Your IRA or Qualified Plan:

If you have an existing plan and want to change the current beneficiaries, contact your Plan Administrator and request a **“Change of Beneficiary Form.”** Then complete the IRA/Plan Beneficiary Designation form following the example below:

### 3. Beneficiaries

#### Primary Beneficiaries

For each beneficiary you list by name, check a beneficiary type and provide all information.

Spouse  
 Non-Spouse  
 Trust  
 Other Entity

A “non-spouse” is any individual who is not your spouse under federal law.

As an alternative to listing each child by name, you can check “Non-Spouse” and enter “All my children” in the Name box.

Name <i>If naming spouse as a beneficiary, do so here.</i>	Social Security or Taxpayer ID Number	Date of Birth <i>MM DD YYYY</i>	Share Percentage	<input type="checkbox"/> Per stirpes
[Insert name of organization]				

Insert Carleton's tax ID# here (41-0694747)

Leave this field blank

Insert the % here

### Sample Language for Your Will or Trust

In addition to funding your Legacy Commitment through your retirement plan, you may also designate Carleton as a beneficiary in your will or trust. For example:

**I give, devise, and bequeath to Carleton College, a non-profit Minnesota corporation, located at One North College Street, Northfield, Minnesota, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my estate, or, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate) to be used for such purposes as the Board of Trustees determines at the time this bequest becomes effective.**

Using language like the following will help us follow the spirit of your gift, even if the particulars change:

**If, at any time after this bequest becomes effective, the funds are not needed or cannot be used for this purpose, the Board of Trustees may direct the funds to be used for a purpose as closely related as possible to the original purpose described in this provision.**

### ONLINE RESOURCES

Find details about will planning at [go.carleton.edu/giftplan](http://go.carleton.edu/giftplan).