



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING FOUNDATION

Cowboy LEGACY

SPRING 2022

ELYSE

Rutherford

LEARN HOW THE MARGARET BOYD SCHOLARSHIP
HELPED ELYSE HONOR HER FATHER'S LEGACY



A MESSAGE FROM

Greetings from the University of Wyoming! The spring semester is winding down and campus is feeling like normal again after the last few years when the world has been impacted by the pandemic.

Through all the ups and downs, one constant has been the resiliency of our students. This issue of Cowboy Legacy highlights two UW students and how their experience has been positively impacted by scholarships established by legacy gifts.

If you have ever considered your own legacy gift to UW, there has never been a better time. UW's Legacy Match Program (see page 7) allows donors to have an immediate impact when they plan their Wyoming legacy to UW.

Don't know for sure where to start? Let us help. Please complete the enclosed reply card and tell us about your favorite UW memory or experience. We look forward to hearing from you. Or you can contact me at (307) 766-4259 or email bbefus@uwyo.edu.



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UW PROUD

Honoring Two Legacies

Elyse Rutherford was in middle school when her father Gale passed away unexpectedly from pancreatic cancer. She remembers making the decision to honor him by committing to her academics and setting an ambitious goal of earning straight As until graduation.

“At the time, I was thinking a lot about honoring his legacy,” says Elyse. “I worked extremely hard and continued getting As. In high school, I became dedicated to earning scholarships to pay for college. I didn’t want paying out of pocket to be an option. I wanted to earn it through hard work. I wanted to make him proud.”

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“I have a lot of love for the state, so I wanted to stay in Wyoming. I only applied for UW, so I was really hoping I would qualify for scholarships.”

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Elyse is the recipient of the Margaret Boyd Scholarship—a fund dedicated to former Home Economics department head and student advocate Margaret Boyd. Margaret established this scholarship after retiring from UW and it was supplemented with a legacy gift to UW from her husband, Don Boyd.



MARGARET BOYD

Both of Elyse’s parents are alumni who met while attending UW. Her father earned his degrees in geology and secondary education. Gale was also heavily involved in his fraternity Sigma Chi. Attending Wyoming’s university was another way she could stay connected to her father.

“I have a lot of love for the state, so I wanted to stay in Wyoming,” says Elyse. “I only applied for UW, so I was really hoping I would qualify for scholarships.”

Her grades and high school involvement earned Elyse several additional scholarships to attend the UW. These scholarships pay for her tuition, meal plans, housing, and books, among other things.

“Thanks to my scholarships, I’m able to focus on my education and devote my time to my studies and do well,” Elyse says. “I’m incredibly thankful for everything they cover and that they’ve allowed me to continue honoring my dad’s legacy.”

If you are interested in establishing a scholarship to support UW students like Elyse, please contact Brett Befus at (307) 766-4259 or email bbefus@uwyo.edu.

Gift Planning

TOP 5 MYTHS OF LEGACY GIVING

1

MYTH: Legacy gifts are only for the wealthy.

FACT: With the right financial planning, anyone can leave a legacy gift.

2

MYTH: Making a legacy gift is a difficult process.

FACT: A legacy gift can be as simple as filling out a beneficiary designation form for a retirement or bank account.

3

MYTH: Legacy gifts only apply to donors of a certain age.

FACT: Legacy gifts can be made by anyone who wants to make an impact at UW, regardless of age.

4

MYTH: The donor must own an estate to give.

FACT: There are a variety of ways to give using a will, retirement plan, life insurance, or qualified charitable distribution.

5

MYTH: A legacy gift doesn't immediately impact the areas I care about.

FACT: With Legacy Match, a newly documented legacy gift may direct up to \$10,000 in immediate funds to support the UW areas that matter to you.



ADOPTING THE *West*

On a snowy night in 2018, Josh Allen led the UW Cowboys to a win over Air Force with a 35-27 victory.

The game is significant to Iowa native Grace McCartney, who attended with her out-of-state family. At the time, she was deciding where to attend college.

“I didn’t know a single soul who had attended UW,” says Grace. “My family are die-hard Hawkeyes. The Air Force game changed everything. It was the first time I could see myself going to school here. I could feel the pride that everyone had for this university, and I knew then that I would always support UW.”



Grace is now in her third year at Wyoming. She’s been able to attend UW as an out-of-state student because of scholarships she received—scholarships that were created by legacy gifts.

Grace is also a recipient of the Margaret Boyd Scholarship, that benefits students studying Family and Consumer Sciences. The fund was created by Margaret’s husband Donald Boyd, in honor of his late wife who passed away in 2012. Like Grace, Margaret Boyd was also an out-of-state transplant who made her home in Wyoming. She devoted her life to elevating UW students to achieve their career goals.

“These scholarships have made it feasible for me to go to college without an overwhelming amount of debt,” says Grace. “They’ve significantly reduced my tuition and made it possible for me to attend the school I really wanted to go to.”

During her time at UW, Grace has embodied what it truly means to be a Poke.

“If one day, I have children, I’ll encourage them to come here,” she adds. “People warned my parents when I made the decision to attend Wyoming. They said if she goes out west, she’ll never come back. And it’s true. I’m here to stay.”

If you are interested in establishing a scholarship to support UW students like Grace, please contact Brett Befus at (307)766-4259 or email bbefus@uwyo.edu.

Legacy Match

MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY BY
DOCUMENTING YOUR FUTURE GIFT

The Legacy Match is a matching gift program that enables UW alumni and friends to have an immediate impact when they make planned gifts to support the university. Planned gifts include bequests in a will or living trust, retirement plan beneficiary designations, and much more.

When you document a planned gift to UW, you can immediately direct Legacy Match funds to a purpose that resonates with you, such as scholarships or support for a specific college or program. When you document your gift with a simple one-page form, 10 percent of the estimated value of your future gift to UW will be matched, up to \$10,000.


A pool of unrestricted matching funds is available on a first-come first-served basis to donors who are 60 and older and are documenting a new planned gift. The Legacy Match program will end when the matching funds have been depleted. The Legacy Match was created by the UW Foundation Board of Directors and a private gift directed to the UW Foundation.

Contact us for more information about how you can take advantage of this opportunity to increase the impact of your legacy.

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CLASSROOM
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We are here to help you and your estate planning team. If you have made UW part of your estate plan, we encourage you to contact us so that we can properly document your intentions and express our sincerest thanks.

CONTACT US

To learn more about your options for estate planning, including gifts that pay you income, please return the enclosed card or contact:

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www.uwyo.edu/giftplanning