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Tips for Giving in All Stages of Life

UW Legacy Match
Cheyenne attorney Greg Dyekman (B.S. accounting with honors ’77, J.D. ’80) is passionate about the University of Wyoming. He has made gifts large and small to support the colleges across campus for decades. He has also left a gift to UW in his will.

“I think, honestly, my mission is to make college life a little easier for the students,” Greg says.

But how did Greg get here? First, he was a student. As an alum he drifted away. But then he reconnect, and the rest is history.

“A big event happened to me when Thyra Thomson, who was the Secretary of State at the time, asked me if I wanted to attend a Board of Visitors meeting in the College of Arts and Sciences,” says Greg. “I wasn’t a graduate of A&S, but I went to that meeting and loved it, and it totally reconnected me with the university.” He continues to serve on that board.

Greg gave his very first gift in 1984—$125 to the Law School Enrichment Fund. Then he began to give more gifts to more areas. His gifts and passion for UW grew. And he loved it.

Greg says that, during UW’s fundraising DISTINCTION Campaign, “I decided, after talking to the program director for Debate, that I would make my first endowment gift. It brought me immense joy.”

Practicing as an estate attorney, Greg learned that others feel similar about giving. “The immense pleasure that people get when they include a charitable gift is just amazing to me,” he says. “It makes me very happy for them.”

He continues, “The thing that I’ve learned as a giver: There is tremendous joy in philanthropy. Every time I make a gift, it makes me smile at that moment. But it also continuously makes me smile every time.”

Greg says, “A planned gift says I trust you. I love your mission. I want to make sure that mission lasts.”

What is your Wyoming Legacy?

“Every time I make a gift, it makes me smile at that moment. But it also continuously makes me smile every time.”

– GREG DYEKMAN
Tips for Giving in All Stages of Life

**TIP #1**
During your working years, donate appreciated securities.

During your working years, you can give annually or even create an endowment to support those areas of the University of Wyoming that you care about.

Either way, an effective way to do this is by giving appreciated securities or stocks. Appreciated securities you’ve held for more than a year can be donated to UW for a full fair market value deduction without incurring tax on the capital gains.

**TIP #2**
In your retirement years, give from your IRA to satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD).

If you are 73 years or older, you may be obligated to take an RMD from your tax-deferred individual retirement account, or IRA. You can support those areas of UW that you believe in while also taking advantage of tax benefits. Qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) are a tax-efficient option that allows you to gift up to $100,000 annually from your IRA.

Your gift will go toward your required minimum distribution, and the amount you gift is excluded from your taxable income, which can lower your taxes.

**TIP #3**
Give your ultimate gift and make an impact.

As people get older, they often think about what they’ll leave behind. That leads many people to include a charitable gift to UW in their will. Think about the ways you can have the biggest impact and then make a plan to support that in your will, trust, or as a beneficiary on an investment or retirement account.

Donors like you have had an amazing impact on UW. They’ve established scholarships that support countless students. They’ve given fellowships and travel stipends for graduate students who are our future scientists and professionals. They’ve supported the Cowboy and Cowgirl student-athletes as they compete. They’ve established named professorships and deanships to attract and retain talented faculty. They’ve even created programs and centers that further research in the areas they are passionate about. Your impact is limited only by your imagination.

“Gifts are the lifeblood of the university. They make possible a plethora of special uses and projects that would otherwise go unfunded. Donors giving major gifts should always remember to continue their annual giving support as well. And anyone giving for the first time should understand that this is a critical area. Without annual giving, the university would lose its heartbeat.”

– ALAN K. SIMPSON
U.S. Senator

“I try to live my life to the fullest and make a difference where I can. One way I do that is by making sure my estate does the kinds of things I am passionate about—that’s making sure young people have opportunities.”

– SUSAN PAMERLEAU
Major General, U.S. Air Force (Retired)

“I’ve learned that students don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care. Being a lifelong academician and now a college president, I have a strong belief in the transformative power of higher education and the transformative power of planned giving. The way you transform places is that you invest in them. A planned gift is the ultimate gift to an institution.”

– DR. JOHN PIEPER
Academic Leader and Philanthropist

We want to hear from you!
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.