



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING FOUNDATION

# Cowboy LEGACY

SPRING 2021



DICK AND MARY LOU

*Taggart*

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW THE TAGGARTS  
HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN ADVANCING  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

# ONCE A *Cowboy*, ALWAYS A *Cowboy*

**D**ick Taggart’s Wyoming roots run deep. He was raised in Evanston and met his wife Mary Lou in the Uinta Mountains. He has a love for rodeo and is a former bareback rider. Dick and Mary Lou are passionate about providing every opportunity possible to the young men and women growing up in Wyoming.

“I have a tremendous sense of identity with the state and the university,” says Dick. “Cowboy ethics have always served me well.”

Dick and Mary Lou have been instrumental to the university’s advancement. However, during his college career he was unaware of just how involved he would become with his alma mater later on in life.



DICK AND MARY LOU TAGGART

Dick began college in the mid-1960s, during the Vietnam War. He made the decision to serve his country while enrolled at UW. He wrote his graduate thesis and took his oral exams at a distance while serving as an officer in the U.S. Navy. He earned his bachelor's and then a master's in agricultural economics with an emphasis in natural resource management.

“My engagement with the University of Wyoming was something that evolved later on,” says Dick. “Since I was active military, I was removed from Wyoming altogether. It was luck that brought me back to UW.”

After graduating and completing his Navy service, Dick would eventually relocate to Washington state to join the Weyerhaeuser Company. It was there where Dick met Bill Ruckelshaus, the founding chairman of the University of Wyoming's Ruckelshaus Institute for Environment and Natural Resources. At the time, Bill happened to be seeking someone to serve on the Ruckelshaus Institute's board and knew Dick was a UW alum who embodied Wyoming values and the cowboy spirit.

The opportunity to serve on the Ruckelshaus Institute board was the catalyst for Dick and Mary Lou's extensive service and philanthropic support for the University of Wyoming. They recently granted a generous gift to the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources through a charitable remainder trust.

“The charitable remainder trust was a perfect fit for us,” says Dick. “We wanted to give a gift that would provide support now and in the future.”

By committing to a charitable remainder trust, Dick and Mary Lou were able to avoid capital gains tax and also received a charitable deduction—maximizing their impact. Their Wyoming legacy ensures more opportunity for the Wyoming students of today and of tomorrow.

“No matter what life throws at us, Wyoming always looks out for each other,” says Dick. “We're so grateful to have been given the opportunity to give back.”

If you are interested in learning more about a gift that pays your life income, please return the enclosed card or call (307) 766-4259.

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## LEAVING A LEGACY

### *Charitable* GIFT ANNUITIES

If you're interested in creating additional income for yourself or for your loved ones, while also leaving a future gift for the University of Wyoming, you might consider a charitable gift annuity. In exchange for a gift of cash, securities, or real estate, a donor receives a fixed amount annually for life. The payment is based on the person's age and the value of the assets gifted. At the time the annuity is established, the donor is entitled to an income tax deduction, and only a portion of the payments are taxed as income. Donors may also receive estate and capital gains tax benefits. Upon the donor's passing, the annuity balance is allocated to benefit a specific program or area of UW that the donor chooses.

### *Charitable* REMAINDER TRUSTS

Another way to create income while supporting the University of Wyoming is a charitable remainder trust. In a charitable remainder trust, a donor transfers cash, securities, or real estate to a trust. The trust assets are invested and the trust pays the donor (or other beneficiaries) annual payments for life or a term of years. The annual payments can either be a fixed amount or fluctuate based on a fixed percentage of the trust's annual value. At the time the trust is established, the donor is entitled to an income tax deduction, pays no immediate capital gains tax, and may receive estate tax benefits. Low-yielding, highly appreciated assets are best to use to establish the trust. This includes investments earning low interest rates, appreciated securities, real estate including vacation homes and investment properties, or even a home if the donor plans to sell it. After the donor's lifetime or a term of up to 20 years, the remaining trust assets go to the University of Wyoming or other charities. The UW Foundation serves as trustee for many charitable remainder trusts.



## Takeaway

Both a charitable gift annuity and a charitable remainder trust can provide you with income, tax benefits, and a legacy at the University of Wyoming.

Want to learn more about gifts that pay you life income? Please start a discussion with an expert at the University of Wyoming Foundation by calling (307) 766-4259, emailing [pg@uwyo.edu](mailto:pg@uwyo.edu), or returning the enclosed card to receive your personalized charitable gift projection.

What is your Wyoming legacy?

*Single-Life Gift Annuity Rates*

Age	Rate*
60	3.9%
65	4.2%
70	4.7%
75	5.4%
80	6.5%
85	7.6%
90+	8.6%

*Two-Life Gift Annuity Rates*

Age	Rate*
60	3.7%
65	3.8%
70	4.2%
75	4.6%
80	5.4%
85	6.5%
90	8.2%

Payout rates are set according to a donor's age at the time the annuity is created and whether the annuity is for one lifetime or two. The current payout rates are displayed in the tables on the right. Don't see your age or exact rate? Request your exact rate by returning the enclosed card.

## THE IMPACT OF GIVING

# *Alum Supports*

## CIVIL ENGINEERING PROFESSORS

A charitable gift annuity is the perfect way to establish income in retirement, take a tax deduction, and leave your legacy at the University of Wyoming. UW alum Vincent O. Smith did just that.

A native of Sheridan, Vincent graduated from UW with his civil engineering degree in 1950. His UW degree launched him into a successful career in the construction industry. Vincent was proud of his Wyoming heritage and wanted to pass along his good fortune and success to future generations of UW students. He attributed his success to the education he received from University of Wyoming engineering professors. Vincent wanted his Wyoming legacy to support those educators who had inspired him. To plan for his legacy, he established a charitable gift annuity with the UW Foundation that would ultimately benefit the Vincent O. Smith Professorship in Engineering at University of Wyoming.



Vincent O. Smith  
UW alumnus, 1950



Jonathan A. Brant  
Vincent O. Smith Professor

Following Vincent's and his wife Rosalie's passing, proceeds from the charitable gift annuity funded the professorship he had previously planned. The professorship has had a tremendous impact on UW. The current recipient of the Vincent O. Smith Professorship is Jonathan Brant, a civil engineering faculty member at UW. Dr. Brant is a leading expert in developing new materials and technologies for separating contaminants from water. The applications range from produced water treatment to municipal water reuse. Dr. Brant's research enlists multiple undergraduate and graduate students that collaboratively explore these pivotal water issues. Dr. Brant also teaches dozens of students each year in courses that range from Introduction to Environmental Engineering to Applications of Nanotechnology to Advanced Physiochemical Separation Processes.

Through Dr. Brant's work, Vincent's Wyoming legacy endures. Because of Vincent's generosity and thoughtfulness, generations of UW students will continue to have the same benefit he had—that is being taught and mentored by outstanding UW faculty.



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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UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING  
**LEGACY**  
SOCIETY

**P**eople who give to the University of Wyoming are a select group of charitable leaders dedicated to supporting the next generation of Cowboys and Cowgirls.

The University of Wyoming Foundation Legacy Society was established in 1991 to celebrate the individuals who have so generously made an estate commitment or a deferred gift to UW. The Legacy Society membership has grown to more than 250 members and counting.