An Estate Gift for Future Patients

DENTAL ALUMNUS TURNED PATIENT SUPPORTS PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH IN GENEROUS BEQUEST

In the early 1980s, Michael DeGould, ’85 DDS, chose to attend Northwestern University Dental School because it “stood head and shoulders above all the others.” Years later, he came back to Northwestern for another reason—prostate cancer treatment—and realized the same thing as a patient of Edward M. Schaeffer, MD, PhD.

“I was really impressed with my clinical care at Northwestern,” said Dr. DeGould, who lives in Rockford, Illinois, and works as an oral surgeon. “I was on the other end of the scalpel, and it was disarming at first, but Dr. Schaeffer was excellent.”

In addition to being a clinically active urologist, Dr. Schaeffer serves as the Harold Binstein Professor and chair of Urology.
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at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. His prostate cancer research focuses on at-risk populations, diagnosis, treatment outcomes, and the molecular biology of lethal prostate cancer. To support this important work, Dr. DeGould decided to make a multimillion-dollar bequest in his will to Feinberg, directed to the Edward Schaeffer Education and Research Fund.

“I am sincerely grateful to Dr. DeGould for his generous commitment to Northwestern’s Department of Urology,” said Dr. Schaeffer. “His foresight and altruism will empower us to make new discoveries to enhance care for future patients—and provide resources for training the outstanding urologic physicians and scientists who will someday drive this work.” Dr. DeGould’s legacy will ultimately touch countless patients.

“I hope I can help spare future generations of people from the agonies of prostate cancer, and maybe even help patients with other types of cancer who can benefit from the team’s research innovations,” he shared.

Dr. DeGould has been an innovator in his own career. In 2005, he invented a combination suction and retraction device that helps oral surgeons access spots in the mouth that are difficult to see, and without an assistant, who may obscure the surgeon’s vision.

As a student, Dr. DeGould was inspired by the leaders who came before him, including one of Northwestern University Dental School’s first deans, Dr. G.V. Black, “the father of modern dentistry,” who helped turn dentistry into a science-based healthcare profession. Though the dental school closed in 2001, Dr. DeGould says his Northwestern degree paved the way for his successful career. “The school had a great reputation and a rich history, with many dental innovators who taught and graduated from Northwestern.”

A HOMECOMING

When first diagnosed with prostate cancer, Dr. DeGould sought care at another hospital system in the Midwest near family. Unimpressed with the continuity of care he was receiving there, he asked a physician friend for advice.

“As it turned out, all I had to do was go back home to Northwestern,” Dr. DeGould said. “I’m so glad I was set in the right direction. Dr. Schaeffer patiently answered all my questions and gave me the rationale for my surgery based on my pathology. He gave me a written and verbal description of what to expect before, during, and after in terms of recovery, and everything went to the letter.”

Two years after his treatment, Dr. DeGould is healthy, grateful, and eager to give back to help future patients with cancer.

“I wanted to leave as much as I can to Northwestern to support this worthy cause,” he said. “For me, it was the right thing to do.”
Win-Win Donation Options

By supporting Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, you contribute to scientific discovery and academic excellence. There are many gift vehicles that can benefit you in return.

KEEP YOUR ASSETS INTACT

- **Name us as a beneficiary of retirement plan assets**—By naming the medical school as the beneficiary of a percentage of your retirement plan assets, you can make a larger gift than you may have thought possible without letting go of your assets when you need them most.
- **Your benefits**—You use your most highly taxed assets to make your gift. Current law allows spouses to stretch retirement plan distributions throughout their lives, but not most nonspousal retirement plan beneficiaries. This group now has 10 years after your passing to withdraw the entire amount. When they take any distribution, they will pay income tax at their ordinary income tax rate. When given to Feinberg, the full value of the gift is received, tax-free.

SECURE FIXED PAYMENTS FOR LIFE

- **Fund a charitable gift annuity**—You and, if you desire, someone else you choose will receive immediate, fixed payments for life.
- **Your benefits**—Your payments never change, and you are eligible for an immediate charitable income tax deduction. Gift annuity rates recently increased, meaning even higher payments for you.

ELIMINATE POTENTIAL TAXES AND ENJOY RELIABLE INCOME

- **Create a charitable remainder trust**—This type of gift pays you—and perhaps other beneficiaries you select—either fixed or variable payments for life or a term of years (up to 20).
- **Your benefits**—You are eligible for a partial charitable deduction for income tax purposes. When you fund the trust with capital gain property, such as appreciated securities or other property owned for more than one year, you are not taxed up front on the capital gain.

REALITIES OF REAL ESTATE

- **Create a gift**—Property that you have held for more than a year can be given to Feinberg in some circumstances.
- **Your benefits**—You may receive an income tax charitable deduction (when you itemize) equal to the property’s full fair market value. You also eliminate capital gains tax. There also is an option to retain the right to occupy a personal residence or farm for life.

California residents: Annuities are subject to regulation by the State of California. Payments under such agreements, however, are not protected or otherwise guaranteed by any government agency or the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association. Oklahoma residents: A charitable gift annuity is not regulated by the Oklahoma Insurance Department and is not protected by a guaranty association affiliated with the Oklahoma Insurance Department. South Dakota residents: Charitable gift annuities are not regulated by and are not under the jurisdiction of the South Dakota Division of Insurance.
Your Gift Can Do More

Would you like to know how to make your charitable gift accomplish even more for you and for Feinberg? Contact nora.dunne@northwestern.edu to receive the free guide Three Ways to Squeeze More Value From Your Appreciated Assets.

Welcome New Rogers Society Members

Our sincerest thank you to the alumni and friends who informed us over the last year that their estate plan includes Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. We are thrilled to recognize them as members of the Henry and Emma Rogers Society. Through charitable bequests, gift annuities, insurance policies, and other forms of planned gifts, members of the Rogers Society have created a lasting legacy for Northwestern students, faculty, and programs.

Anonymous
Louis E. Claybon, MD, and Katherine F. Claybon
Robert Easter and Linda Brennan, PhD
Michael DeGould, DDS
Robert and Alice Greenwald
Barbara B. Gosink, MD, and Leonard J. Gosink, MD
Jeanne M. Martineau
Grant C. Meyer
Nora J. Francis, PT, DHS, and Dean L. Francis, DDiv
Stephen M. Stahl, MD, and Shakila Marie Stahl
Singhinsuk Family
Anne Reed Fagan and Alan Fagan
Arthur Veis, PhD

This list reflects individuals who have shared their estate plan with Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine between June 12, 2021, and June 7, 2022. We have made every effort to provide accurate information. If you note an oversight, however, please contact Sarah Kalsbeek at s-kalsbeek@northwestern.edu or 312-503-3459.