Leaving A Lasting Legacy

Jim Strenski didn’t attend Jesuit, but he and his wife Jane Strenski wouldn’t think of not including it in their planned giving.

Natives of Wisconsin, the Strenskis attended a Jesuit university, Marquette, in Milwaukee. Jim served in the military during the Korean War, and after raising five children in Chicago, the Strenskis moved to Tampa. Their youngest son, James Phillip Strenski ’86, attended Jesuit. Then two grandsons attended Jesuit, James Urbaitis ’99 and Michael Urbaitis ’05.

Now, donating to Jesuit, and joining the Bequest Society, is a centerpiece of the Strenskis’ giving.

“Our impetus for joining the Bequest Society is a part of our modest plan to focus on the education of underprivileged kids as a ‘life-changer,’” Jim and Jane Strenski said. “We have supported Jesuit over the years - from the time our youngest was a freshman through two grandkids - not only for superior academics but most importantly because of the Jesuit commitment to developing ‘Men for Others.’”

The Strenskis, who have been married for 59 years, moved to Tampa about 30 years ago. Jim owned a public relations firm in Chicago, which had branches in Florida. The family always has emphasized Jesuit education, with members attending colleges such as Marquette (Michael Urbaitis is graduating from Marquette’s dental school in May), Georgetown University and Saint Louis University. Thus it’s natural that education and schools are central to their charitable endeavors.

“Jesuit is the middle part of our education focus,” the Strenskis said. “It starts with our support of Academy Prep, an inner-city middle school in Tampa … and beyond to our alma mater, Marquette University.

“Young people should be raised with the notion that they have a responsibility to help those less fortunate than they are. Jesuit does this extremely well, in addition to preparing students academically for college.”

“Giving needy kids a financial boost to break the cycle of poverty through a ‘giving back-oriented’ education is our goal. Jesuit is a vital part of the equation.”

The Strenskis provide for their Jesuit bequest through their wills and estate plans. Gifting is facilitated through their respective trusts.

By doing so, they are helping carry on the Jesuit tradition - for the benefit of others.

“Making ‘Men for Others’ is so important in our judgment,” Jim Strenski said. “Young people should be raised with the notion that they have a responsibility to help those less fortunate than they are. Jesuit does this extremely well, in addition to preparing students academically for college.”

For more information on becoming a member of the Jesuit High School 1899 Bequest Society, please contact the Development Office at (813) 877-5344 Ext. 704, or scan the QR code using your smart device.