



## A “Divine Intervention” Motivates Mark Donohue ’71

**M**ark Donohue ’71 loved his freshman year at Jesuit High School. But that lone academic year might have been his only one on Himes Avenue.

Tuition went up, and the family couldn’t afford it any longer. Donohue’s older brother, Mike Donohue ’67, had been on financial aid at Jesuit, but Mark was not.

So Donohue started looking at other options. To his dismay, he thought his sophomore year was destined to be spent at another school.

“It looked like I might be headed (elsewhere),” Donohue said. “Then came a divine intervention.”

Fr. August Coyle, S.J., then the president of Jesuit, sent a letter to the Donohue family indicating Jesuit could provide financial aid for Mark.

“I think (Fr. Coyle) must have also said as long as I pitched a no-hitter in my senior year and would beat TC at least once from the mound,” Donohue said. “Okay, maybe the letter didn’t say that.”

That moment when his life nearly changed dramatically has long resonated with Donohue.

“It was a true fork in the road for me, and eventually my son (Kevin Donohue ’06),” Donohue said. “I can’t imagine having gone through life without having had the great opportunity to attend Jesuit – from the religious training, to the academics, to the athletics, and my many wonderful friendships.”

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Donohue’s family, especially his parents Larry and Genevieve, loved Jesuit. In 1980, Donohue co-founded American Municipal Securities with Jesuit New Orleans 1968 graduate Cooper Petagna. Donohue is Senior Vice President and a fixed income specialist at AMS.

Along with his wife Louise, Donohue decided to leave part of their estate to Jesuit, to “make sure Jesuit would be remembered by the Donohues.”

“Louise, who is all-in, sees in my Jesuit friends how wonderful our school really is, and she wants to support its great Catholic mission,” Donohue said. “The ultimate goal is to provide other deserving young men, whose parents are unable to afford Jesuit’s tuition, an opportunity to attend the best Catholic (or otherwise) school in Tampa.” 

