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Betsy Hulvey grew up playing on the Drillfield, watching the Corps of Cadets train, learning to swim in Memorial Gym, and organizing grand adventures at the Duck Pond. “Burruss Hall was like a castle in my very own fairy tale,” Hulvey remembers. “Visiting campus feels like coming home.”

The granddaughter of William Dabney Saunders, for whom Saunders Hall is named, Hulvey often visited Blacksburg and even lived for a while with her grandparents at Solitude, the long, white-frame house familiar to every generation of Hokies.

Saunders joined the staff of what was then Virginia Polytechnic Institute in the 1890’s and retired in 1945. He was director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and held positions in dairy and animal husbandry, taking a leave of absence to serve for seven years as Virginia’s first dairy and food commissioner. In that role, he organized a system of testing herds that resulted in the near elimination of tuberculosis in Virginia’s dairy cows.

Hulvey’s strong family ties to the university, along with her memories of special times on campus, fueled her decision to include a gift to Virginia Tech in her estate plan.

“I have left a bequest to the dairy science department in memory of my grandfather, because I fear for the future of the independent dairy farmer in this country, because I love and have great pride in Virginia Tech, and because I know that my parents would want and approve of this gift,” she says.
Life Income Gifts Pay You
Receive a stream of payments - or provide payments to a loved one - with a life income gift that also benefits Virginia Tech.

HOW DOES IT WORK?
• You create your life income gift when you transfer cash, securities, real estate, or another asset, irrevocably, to the Virginia Tech Foundation Inc. in exchange for payments to yourself or to someone you name, usually for life.
• The funds you transfer are professionally managed to generate a stream of income for you during your lifetime.
• When the plan ends, typically after your lifetime, the remainder becomes your gift to the university, to be used as you designate.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?
You receive an immediate charitable income tax deduction and typically enjoy additional tax advantages.
Life income gifts include charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts. The Office of Gift Planning would be pleased to offer you a personalized gift plan and help you identify the options that fit your goals.

You are encouraged to consult your financial advisor and contact the Office of Gift Planning to help ensure your gift strategy works as you intend.

CONSIDER FUNDING YOUR GIFT WITH SECURITIES
Funding your life income gift with securities can be a tax-wise way to effectively lower the cost of your gift. You may find you can create a larger gift that may provide greater future support for the university as well as larger payments to you.


TO QUALIFY
• Donor must be 70 1/2 or older
• Gift(s) must be transferred directly from the IRA to the Virginia Tech Foundation Inc.
• Such gifts cannot exceed $100,000 per person, per year


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Now it’s easier for donors age 70 1/2 and older to plan gifts and pledge payments using the popular charitable IRA rollover. No more uncertainty about its availability. This special gift option became permanent in December 2015 and is now available all year, every year.

Qualifying charitable IRA rollover gifts can count toward the required minimum distribution from your IRA, without being taxed as income.

It’s a great way to support the university with a gift from your IRA and see its impact during your lifetime.

A Legacy of Opportunity
Scholarships gave Morgan Sykes ’16 opportunities to serve as a leader.
A history major with a minor in psychology, 2016 Outstanding Senior for the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Morgan Sykes received multiple scholarships, including the Ora G. Roop Scholarship, endowed by the late Ralph and Inez Roop (below). With scholarships, Morgan could forego part-time jobs and focus fully on her education.

“I wanted something more out of school,” says Morgan, adding that being involved “provided opportunities to practice leadership and communication skills.” She served as undergraduate representative to the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, Student Government Association Cabinet Representative, Hokie Camp counselor, Hokie Ambassador, manager of the College Mentor for Kids program, and president and co-founder of the Virginia Tech chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society promoting excellence in education.

Morgan never met Ralph and Inez Roop, but their generosity has already helped her embody Ut Prosim in her journey toward becoming an educator.

“Scholarship donors … give people a lot of opportunities they wouldn’t otherwise have,” says Morgan. “I’ve been really thankful for that.”

The late Ralph and Inez Roop spent much of their lives giving back to their alma maters.
High school sweethearts, Ralph (Virginia Tech ‘36) and Inez (James Madison University ‘35) Roop shared a lifelong commitment to higher education. Their legacy will continue for generations.

Ralph (1915-2006) was born in Snowville, Virginia. His father was a farmer, his mother a teacher. He graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in agriculture economics, earned his masters at Cornell, and had a successful career with Southern States Cooperative and Petroleum Marketers Inc. His exceptional service and financial generosity to Virginia Tech were recognized in 2003 with the William Ruffner Medal, the university’s highest honor.

Inez Graybeal Roop (1913-2010) grew up in Christiansburg, Virginia. A James Madison University alumna, she became a public elementary and high school teacher. She supported JMU as a donor and on its Board of Visitors. In 1977, she received JMU’s Distinguished Alumnus Service Award.

The Roops credited higher education with providing them with opportunities for success and service. “Our parents … put us through school during the Depression,” said Inez, “and they would be pleased that we are giving back so that others might have the opportunity to study for a college education.”

Charter members of Virginia Tech’s Ut Prosim and Legacy societies, the Roops saw the impact of many of their gifts during their lifetime. The couple also created a legacy of support that came to Virginia Tech after their lifetime through a charitable remainder trust, gift annuities, and a bequest.

One such legacy created the Ora G. Roop Endowed Scholarship in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Named in honor of Ralph’s mother, the scholarship was created with a charitable gift annuity funded with a gift of securities.

Morgan Sykes (above) is one of generations of Ora Roop Scholarship recipients who, though they cannot thank the Roops in person, will have their own opportunities to continue the couple’s legacy of Ut Prosim in action.

Virginia Tech donors - past, present, and future - are Ut Prosim in action.
Students thank you. Watch online! http://bit.ly/1T7UTfA
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Hulvey is a long-time Hokie Club member who is active in civic affairs and enjoys gardening, family, friends, and frequent visits to Blacksburg. “I like to come to Blacksburg to shop and catch up with my family,” Hulvey says. “Between my mother’s family and my father’s, you can’t swing a cat in Southwest Virginia without hitting a cousin.”

Hulvey is proud of her family history and its connections to Virginia Tech. Through her estate gift, she expects to help both the university and the dairy industry, adding to her family’s considerable legacy of advancing dairy science at Virginia Tech and beyond.

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Visit bit.ly/27bouz2 for more of Hulvey’s story. 