

Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision

University of Southern Indiana Foundation • Established October 1, 1968

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Table of Contents

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The University of Southern Indiana is a comprehensive public university in Evansville, Indiana. More than 10,000 (Fall 2020)* students are enrolled in academic programs in business, liberal arts, nursing, health professions, science, engineering and education. Selected graduate degree programs serve persons in professional and technical studies. More information is available on the web at USI.edu.

*Overall USI enrollment is the sum of dual credit, undergraduate and graduate students, a higher education standard.

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i	Cloedeen G. and Frank F. McDonald Sr.
ii	Letter from the USI Foundation President
2	Ascension St. Vincent Evansville
4	Dr. Mark D. and Jennifer M. Browning
6	William “Bill” V. and Carolyn G. Clippinger
8	Deaconess Health System
10	Efroymsen Family Fund
12	Michael J. “Mike” and Pamela J. “Pam” Fulk
14	Margery F. Kahn
16	Robert M. “Robbie” and Marguerite G. “Margie” ’72 Kent
18	Dr. George F. and Margaret M. “Peggy” Rapp
20	David K. “Dave” ’74 and M. Darlene Robinson
22	John L. Sanders and Evelyn K. Oeth-Sanders
24	John L. ’82 and Cindy E. Schutz
26	E. Harvey and Shirley C. Seaman
28	Wayne S. ’81 and Jill M. Trockman
30	Vectren, a CenterPoint Energy Company

***“Every citizen
who desires an education,
who is capable of
attaining an education
and
who is willing to
achieve an education
shall have
the opportunity
to do so.”***

-Dr. David L. Rice
President Emeritus

University of Southern Indiana

Robert M. Kent Family Fountain

Donald N. ...

INDIANIAN ...

“We drink from wells we did not dig; we are warmed by fires we did not kindle.”



Cloedeen G. (Duvall) and Frank F. McDonald Sr.

On October 1, 1968, Dr. David L. Rice, President Emeritus of the University of Southern Indiana, and Byron C. Wright, Vice President Emeritus for Business Affairs and Treasurer, met with Mayor Frank F. McDonald Sr. in his office in downtown Evansville. Mayor McDonald was an avid supporter of the young campus and had a profound conviction that the University would be a tremendous benefit for the City of Evansville and the State of Indiana. He often referred to it as “an industry without a smokestack.”

The mayor’s support was key to the University’s success and Dr. Rice and Mr. Wright visited regularly with him to discuss issues affecting higher education on the Evansville campus. At the end of this particular meeting, Mayor McDonald said, “You will need private gifts to help make that place a success. Folks around here will not want to send their hard-earned money out of town, so I suggest you establish a foundation to benefit our University.” He then opened his wallet and pulled out two \$100 bills. “Here is \$100 from me and \$100 from my wife to begin that foundation.”

Dr. Rice then approached Indiana State University President Alan C. Rankin about creating a foundation, and received further encouragement. In seeking approval from his trustees, Dr. Rankin noted that the establishment of a foundation in Evansville was important. He emphasized Mayor McDonald’s

point that Evansville-area donors would give more enthusiastically to an Evansville organization. Because the Evansville campus did not have the necessary staff, Dr. Rankin also offered the assistance of the foundation in Terre Haute to help begin this effort.

Frank McDonald had unusual foresight for Evansville and for the University of Southern Indiana. To ensure that we are reminded of that vision, each year the University of Southern Indiana Foundation publishes *Faces of Philanthropy: Generous Friends of Vision*. The inaugural edition in 2008 commemorated the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Foundation.

Mayor McDonald’s vision for the University and for the USI Foundation, as well as his active work on behalf of these institutions, serves as witness to what great things can be accomplished with collaboration, cooperation and wise leadership. Frank McDonald’s efforts to ensure the establishment of the institution in 1965 have earned him the title of “founding father.”

Those featured in this volume made a decision to support the mission of the University with their financial resources. Through their stories readers have an insight into the individuals who shared the conviction that they must “kindle the fire” so future generations will know warmth.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This year has brought many challenges to the University of Southern Indiana, but the USI spirit didn’t waiver and, together, we found renewed strength, creativity and confidence.

Our faculty deserve high praise for converting their in-person course content to fully online mid-step in the spring semester. This ensured our students could continue pursuit of their academic goals. Employees quickly established home offices to continue University operations. Students left the physical campus with heavy hearts, but they remained committed to learning and many discovered resiliency along the way.

During these times, we reached out to our alumni and friends – and you answered the call. You pivoted with us as we adapted to new forms of communication and engagement; you offered encouraging words; you gave generously to fulfill unexpected needs; you remained dedicated to the University. Thank you for your friendship, generosity and loyalty. Because of you, the University continues to provide an accessible and affordable higher education to students who desire to attain one. You make this possible every day at USI.

Your support allowed us to complete the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 with \$8.3 million. This is a \$1 million increase from the previous year.

With the death of President Emeritus Dr. David L. Rice on January 15, 2020, we were reminded of his great vision for our University, the tireless and brilliant efforts of colleagues and community members to bring it to fruition, and the thousands of individuals who have and continue to invest and believe in it. When Dr. Rice passed the torch from his presidency he did so with confidence, and today it burns brighter than ever. We are profoundly grateful.

Sincerely,

David A. Bower, MA, CFRE
Vice President for Development
President, USI Foundation

October 1, 2020



*Together, USI
and Ascension
St. Vincent
Evansville
Foundation are
meeting the
health needs of
the region.*



Ascension St. Vincent Evansville

In 1872, the Daughters of Charity received their first patient in a former Marine hospital on the banks of the Ohio River. This established St. Mary's Hospital as the first community hospital in Evansville, Indiana. Today, the health complex is known as Ascension St. Vincent Evansville, and the primary mission of the hospital remains true to its founding.

By 1894, the hospital moved to a new facility on First Avenue in Evansville. As the community grew so did the services of St. Mary's and it moved once again. In 1953, ground was broken for its present-day complex on Washington Avenue. The new complex was officially opened in 1956. Amazingly in one day, every patient was moved from the First Avenue location to the new complex. Known as Operation Good Neighbor, it took place on March 10, 1956, when 800 volunteers gathered to assist in this move of 97 patients and hospital equipment, which required the use of 215 tractors, trailers and vans.

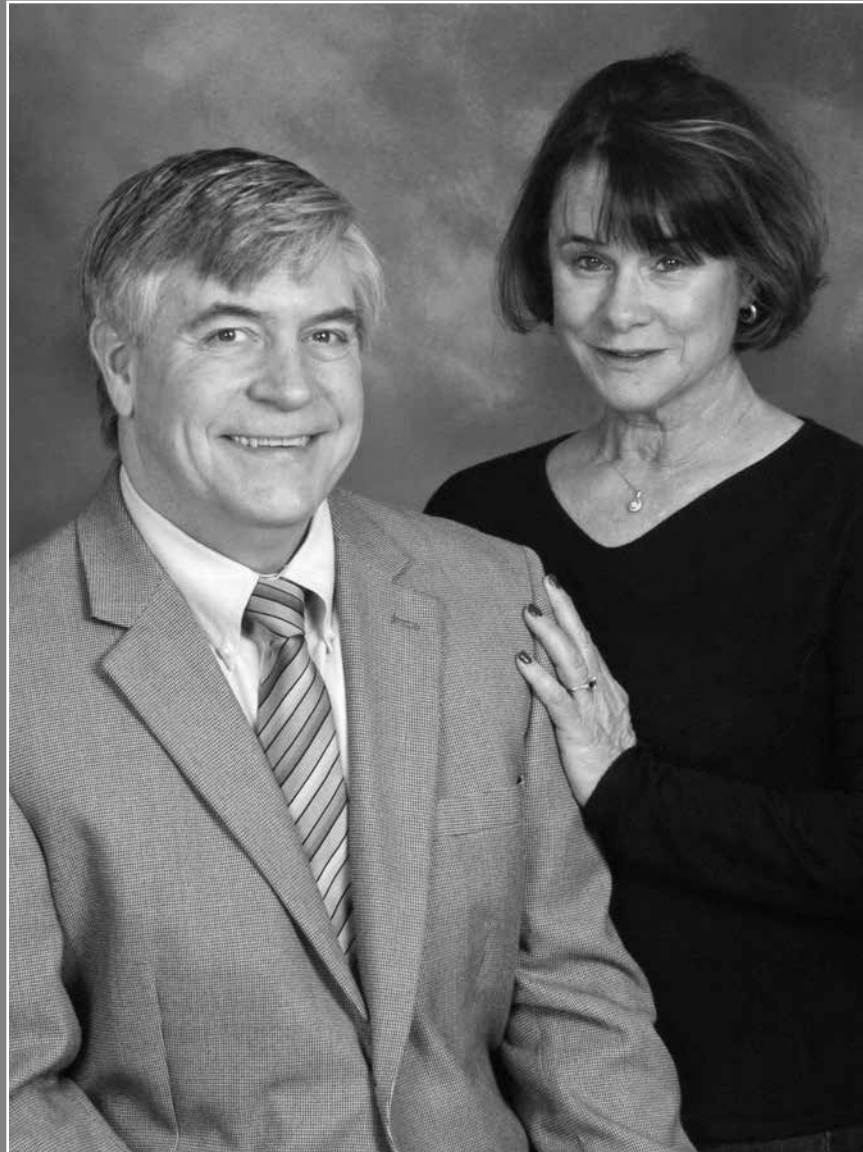
In 2012, St. Mary's health providers became affiliated with the Indianapolis-based St. Vincent network of the Daughters of Charity. In 2017, St. Mary's rebranded itself under the St. Vincent/Ascension name, today known as Ascension St. Vincent Evansville. Statewide, St. Vincent healthcare network has 20 hospital locations across Indiana, with nearly 2,000 physicians and more than 400 sites of care.

The St. Vincent system has been instrumental in providing resources and opportunities for the health professions and academic programs at the University of Southern Indiana. Students in the nursing program complete clinical hours at the hospital, which allows them to finish the requirements for degree completion. In 2011, St. Vincent became the first hospital in Evansville to receive Magnet status, which is the gold standard of nursing care, and received its re-designation of the status in 2016. This continued excellence and recognition of St. Vincent's delivery in healthcare remains a major reason so many USI graduates select the hospital as the incubator of their careers.

Faculty and administrators at the University maintain collaborative relationships with members of Ascension St. Vincent Evansville through shared board service, projects and volunteer opportunities. Both organizations, as well as the surrounding community, benefit from these reciprocal efforts. USI created the first Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) in southern Indiana on 6 West. The DEU provides quality clinical education for the students, pairing a professional nurse with a student to ensure and provide a positive clinical immersion experience.

Ascension St. Vincent Evansville has additionally invested in the University. During *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence*, St. Vincent Evansville recognized the invaluable connection between USI and their organization. This led to a leadership gift to establish the St. Vincent Evansville Nursing Scholarship Endowment through the St. Vincent Evansville Foundation. This scholarship is awarded annually to top students in the nursing program at USI. The continued investments allow students to develop their skills and talents to make them more hospital-ready and put their education into action.

*The Brownings
have an
unmatched care
for the community.*



Dr. Mark D. and Jennifer M. Browning

The Browning family has been a fixture among the Evansville community for generations. Dr. Browning, the son of Charles and Dolores DeWitt Browning, was exposed to success early in life and continues to follow the example set by his parents.

The Browning name is most well known and associated with funeral service. In 1954 Charles and Dolores DeWitt Browning opened Browning Funeral Home. While the business grew and expanded over the years, the Browning family also proudly established, and continues to support, the Browning Genealogy & Local History database as a free service to the public. Charles Browning began a collection of obituaries published in the *Evansville Courier & Press* dating back to 1900, allowing for broad access to genealogy research by community members. In 1999, the collection was launched with a unique website for universal access and it now has over 15 million users annually.

Dr. Browning became fascinated with medicine and at the age of 16 knew he wanted to be a doctor. He earned his undergraduate degree from Loyola University and continued to pursue his Doctor of Medicine from Indiana University School of Medicine. He first enrolled at the Evansville campus and finished at the Indianapolis campus. He completed his internship, residency and fellowship at the National Cancer Institute and Naval Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Browning served 24 years in the Navy as captain of the medical corps. Today, he is a respected oncologist at St. Vincent's Cancer Center Evansville. "The humanism of medicine is the most heartwarming thing in the world for me," he notes. Jennifer completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Indiana State University and taught many years as a special education teacher. In the 1970s she was instrumental in establishing the Special Olympics in Vanderburgh County.

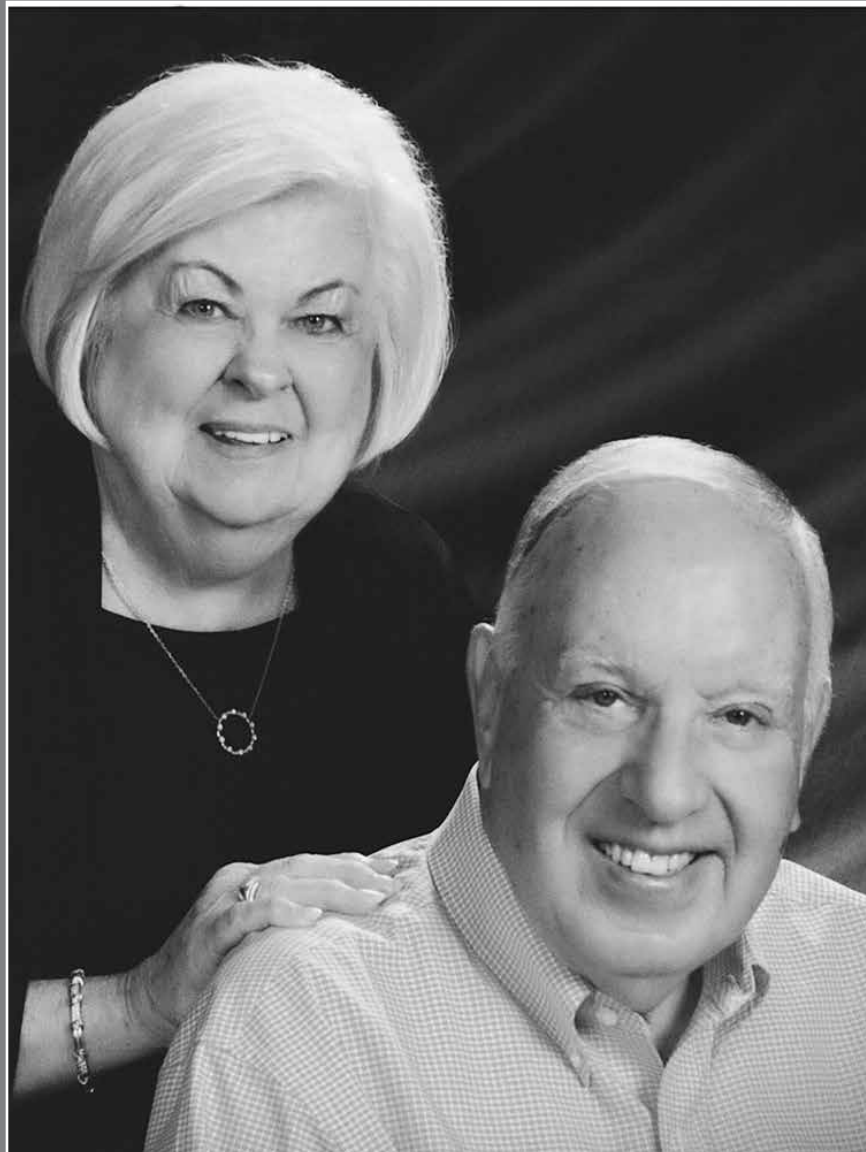
The Brownings also serve their community with the same care, compassion and attention as they do their patients and students. Ever active in veteran causes, a central focus of their activities is the Evansville Wartime Museum. The Brownings also are involved with the Ascension St. Vincent Evansville Foundation and in 2019, Dr. Browning received the Steward of St. Vincent de Paul Award at the annual Cornette Ball. Jennifer additionally provides service to the local Philanthropic Educational Organization and helps to secure scholarships for students pursuing their goals in higher education.

The generosity of the Brownings at the University of Southern Indiana is extensive. The Delores & Charles Browning and Jennifer & Mark Browning B/MD Scholarship Endowment supports the merit scholars of the prestigious Baccalaureate/Doctor of Medicine Program. Investments also have been made to enhance global and experiential learning opportunities in the Romain College of Business, as well as graduate scholarships for students seeking their graduate degrees.

In addition to their service to the Evansville community, the Brownings enjoy spending time with family. They have two sons of whom they are extremely proud. Ryan, a recent graduate of the University of Southern California with a Master of Communication degree, resides in California. John, a distinguished accountant who received his graduate degree from Wake Forest, died in 2019. A scholarship endowment in his name was established at USI to honor him and assist accounting majors.

The Brownings are perpetual members of the President's Associates, members of *Reflections* and Dr. Browning has been a director on the USI Foundation Board since 2009.

*The Clippingers
contribute to
the University to
support the entire
community.*



William "Bill" V. and Carolyn G. Clippinger

It was by happy choice that in August 1961 the Clippingers ended up in Evansville, Indiana. Originally from southern Ohio, the couple found their way to southern Indiana after Bill attended graduate school at Indiana University. This came about after Bill had been involved in case studies of several small Evansville based companies. He knew he did not want to return to his small hometown of Athens, Ohio, but also did not want to relocate to a large metropolitan area. Almost 60 years later, they both still emphatically say, "We made the right decision. We love this community."

Bill began his 55-year career in the insurance business when he relocated to Evansville. After seven weeks, he was \$700 in debt and still had not made his first sale. Once evening, he secured an appointment to which Carolyn and 16-week-old son, Scott, accompanied him in the car. She informed him he could return to the vehicle once the sale was made. Fortunately, the tide started to change that evening. Bill credits his success to Carolyn. "She always kept things going to ensure I had the time to develop a productive career," he comments. In 1970, Bill founded Clippinger Financial Group, which is now National Financial Partners (NFP). The firm is now managed by his son, Scott.

Throughout their personal and professional life, the University of Southern Indiana became a meaningful place to the Clippingers. They both see the regional and state economy as being directly correlated to the education the University is providing to students. The USI experience adds to the greater whole of southern Indiana.

Their connection to the University grew when their daughter, Julie Clippinger Hagedorn '88, graduated from USI with a degree in elementary education. Today, the Clippingers also have two grandsons attending USI. Tyler Hagedorn '20, majored in sport management and is a pitcher for the USI Men's Baseball team while continuing his graduate studies at the University, and John Clippinger, who is majoring in manufacturing engineering.

Over the years, the Clippingers have supported the University by making gifts to the prestigious Presidential Scholarships and to the Here & Now Fund. Bill served on the USI Foundation Board of Directors from 1998 to 2003. During *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence* the Clippingers increased their support to invest in the greatest needs of the campaign.

When asked why they continue to invest, Bill shares a story about his family's value for higher education. Bill's father was dean of the Ohio University Graduate School. He saw firsthand how an institution of higher learning is critically needed for a high quality of life in the surrounding community. Soon after the Clippingers moved to Evansville, the new institution of public higher education was founded and it made them appreciate, all over again, how accessibility to education also grants access to opportunity. For the couple, they hope USI will continue to offer a top-notch education to students to keep our community, regional industries and quality of life flourishing. They both state, "Evansville is our home and we are very proud of our city and its schools of higher education."

*A partnership
forged in
dedication to
students and
the community.*



Deaconess Health System

The University of Southern Indiana holds a special relationship with Deaconess Health System. Not only has the organization, and many members of its employee family, contributed generously to the University, Deaconess also is the largest employer of USI graduates. This unique bond has developed as both campuses have grown and continues to yield tremendous benefits for the region and state of Indiana.

Deaconess was founded in the 1890s by a group of Protestant ministers. During this time, Evansville's population had reached 50,000 and community members knew a new hospital and dedicated facility for treating individuals was desperately needed. The founding Protestant ministers looked to Bethesda Deaconess Hospital in Chicago, Illinois for guidance on the establishment of this new hospital. In 1892 the first Deaconess nurse arrived in Evansville, along with four dedicated physicians. In 1893, the small hospital association purchased a home in downtown Evansville and converted it into a 19-bed hospital. Today, Deaconess Midtown Hospital rests on part of the original property.

Growth continued for Deaconess Hospital and by 1960, it became the second-largest, general, nonvoluntary, nongovernmental hospital in Indiana. In 1970, the hospital saw more development in downtown Evansville to become what is now known as its 20-block Midtown campus.

Innovation has always been synonymous with the hospital. In 1999, Deaconess Cross Pointe opened to provide mental health services and in 2001, The Women's Hospital opened, which was then the tristate's only free-standing hospital dedicated specifically to women's health. In 2006, the expansive Deaconess Gateway Hospital was finished. Upon the merger with Welborn Clinic in 2008, the number of Deaconess physicians grew to more than 160; Deaconess Clinic now employs more than 460 physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. Since then, Deaconess has opened two additional specialty hospitals, The Heart Hospital and The Orthopedic and Neuroscience Hospital, as well as adding numerous regional affiliations.

Deaconess Health System has provided countless support to USI and its students. In the early 1990s, the hospital was instrumental in assisting with the launch of USI's Occupational Therapy Program, investing directly into the program's success. Today, student nurses also benefit from the clinical hours offered for their degree completion. USI created a Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) in 2013 at Deaconess Hospital Midtown. The purpose of this DEU is to provide quality clinical education for the students, in which a professional nurse is paired with a student to ensure skill progression takes place and the learning needs are met.

During *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence*, Deaconess Health System established the Deaconess Health System Health Professions Scholarship Endowment. This was a major investment and commitment to the University to provide scholarships to promising students within the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

This long-standing partnership between Deaconess Health System and the University is evidence of the hospital's dedication to the wellbeing of every citizen in the region and tristate area. Together, in service and generosity, both organizations will continue to modernize healthcare and ensure southern Indiana and its residents thrive.

The generosity of the Efroymsen family will leave a long-lasting legacy for USI students and University programs.



Elissa Hamid Efroymsen, Lori Efroymsen-Aguilera and Jeremy Efroymsen

Efroymsen Family Fund

The Efroymsen family was originally from Evansville, Indiana. In the 1870s the family moved to Indianapolis where Jacob Efroymsen, the patriarch of the family, along with his wife, Minnie, opened and operated a small dry goods store. Gustave, their son, became a prosperous businessman. Throughout his lifetime he worked tirelessly to help those most in need – involving himself in humanitarian matters such as ridding Indianapolis of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s and helping the Jewish people of Europe flee Germany and seek sanctuary in the United States in the 1930s and 1940s. His desire for the greater good always outweighed his own personal gain.

Gustave had two sons, Clarence, who was an economist and professor of economics at Butler University, and Robert, a lawyer and businessman. Both understood the position their family was in to provide meaningful investments to their community and follow in their father's footsteps. Over time, their care and concern for the wellbeing of those around them prominently placed the Efroymsen family as respected civic leaders and philanthropists in Indianapolis.

In 1916 the family was instrumental in establishing The Indianapolis Foundation, a precursor to the Central Indiana Community Foundation. For three generations, the Efroymsen name was associated with its development – Gustave, Robert and Robert's son, Dan, served on the board of the community foundation.

In 1998, Dan and Lori Efroymsen expanded the reach of the family's contributions by establishing the Efroymsen Family Fund. At the time of its formation, it was the largest donor-advised fund in the nation. To date, it has awarded over \$118 million in grants which continue to positively impact the life of Hoosiers, including students at the University of Southern Indiana.

Since Dan's death in 1999, Lori Efroymsen-Aguilera and their two children, Jeremy and Elissa, have continued to support the Efroymsen Family Fund. The family seeks to pair their financial support with innovation and creativity to address a diverse range of issues including arts and culture, historic preservation, the environment, health and human services, and civic and community development.

The Efroymsen Family Fund has been generous to the University. Each year the Efroymsen Bridge Year Fellowship is awarded to a student of USI's Art and Design Department. This affords a student the opportunity to develop a strong portfolio and expand their artistic vision in preparation for graduate study. In addition, the Efroymsen Family Fund has provided investments in New Harmony, Indiana with recently updated technology enhancements and continued renovations at the Atheneum Visitors Center.

The Efroymsen family truly believes philanthropy is about celebrating fundamental change and impact. We applaud their commitment to others and thank them for their generosity over many years to the University of Southern Indiana.

*A son's USI
experience turns
into a legacy
fostered by his
parents.*



Michael J. "Mike" and Pamela J. "Pam" Fulk

Mike and Pam Fulk, of Centerpoint, Indiana, have always had an interest in education, eventually culminating in their choice of professions. At the age of 24, Mike began a 38-year career at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology working as a mechanical engineering lab technician assisting students pursuing their mechanical engineering degrees. He notes throughout those years he witnessed many changes in engineering technology. After graduating from Indiana State University, Pam spent her professional career as an elementary school teacher.

The Fulks are recent retirees and looking forward to the next chapter of their lives. Mike and Pam are active members of their church and community. They both enjoy spending quality time at home and gardening.

Their connection with the University of Southern Indiana began in 2007. After a campus visit, their son, Alex, applied and was accepted. Alex made a quick connection with the University and faculty and became immersed in many extracurricular activities. Mike and Pam enjoyed coming to Evansville to visit their son; as he would always have new restaurants lined up for them to try along with several fun activities to experience in the Evansville area.

Tragically, Alex died in an accident during the summer of 2008, just after finishing his sophomore year. The Fulks decided to establish a scholarship in his name to acknowledge the wonderful time Alex had on campus and how much he enjoyed the USI experience. The Alexander M. Fulk Memorial Scholarship awards a scholarship to students from Clay County, Indiana, planning to attend USI. Preference is given to students majoring in engineering to reflect Alex's own educational pursuits in industrial supervision. The Alexander M. Fulk Memorial Scholarship has provided assistance to several Clay County individuals and Mike and Pam are looking forward to many more students benefiting from his scholarship in the future.

The Fulks shared that the scholarship is primarily about Alex's memory, but also their values about education. They commented, "We know this scholarship is worthwhile and has served its purpose when we see students get through college with a degree, less financial debt and on a path to a professional career."

Margery Kahn has provided limitless opportunity to USI students.



Margery F. Kahn

Margery F. Kahn was not well known to the University of Southern Indiana at the time of her death, but her influential legacy continues to live on in students. Ms. Kahn was deeply moved by the power of a higher education and wished to help students succeed in their academic journey.

Born in Evansville in 1916, Ms. Kahn was destined for a great and fulfilling life. She was born into the successful family of Clarence and Delia Bitterman Kahn, the owners of S. Kahn & Sons, a wholesale grocery store located on Fulton Avenue in Evansville. At college age, Ms. Kahn found her way to the University of Wisconsin to study sculpture. During this time, she was influenced by the world-renowned work of Alexander Calder. Calder had created public sculptures across the globe and is best known for his unique integration of mobiles in his artwork. With education in hand, and influenced by Calder's modern sculpture, she began her career at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. She furthered her artistic talents at the Sculpture Center in New York.

In the 1930s and 1940s, Ms. Kahn additionally made a name for herself through an amateur golf career. Her greatest recognition came as being one of the first women to play in the Women's Western Amateur Tournament in Chicago, Illinois. By today's standards, she could have likely been on professional tour during her lifetime.

Ms. Kahn was civically active. She was involved in many local organizations, namely the Evansville Philharmonic and the Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science. Ms. Kahn also was a member of the Drama Department at the University of Evansville where she provided service to the UE Theatre Society.

Upon her death in 1995, Ms. Kahn's estate was divided among local cultural organizations, the University of Evansville, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and the University of Southern Indiana.

Ms. Kahn's estate gift to the USI Foundation established the Margery F. Kahn Memorial Scholarship Endowment. Her memorial scholarship has only one criterion – the student recipient must have a 3.0 GPA. Ms. Kahn became a perpetual member of the President's Associates and a member of *Reflections*, the planned giving society of the USI Foundation, posthumously.

From USI's early years to the more recent commencement stage – USI comes full circle for the Kent family.



Robert M. “Robbie” and Marguerite G. “Margie” ’72 Kent

Robbie and Margie Kent both agree the University of Southern Indiana is a place of great opportunity. Their continued investments are largely due to their first-hand experience of the high-quality education afforded by USI.

In 1967, Robbie was a member of USI’s first men’s basketball team. Although he graduated with a marketing degree at Indiana State University, he feels his professors at USI in business, accounting and economics were top drawer. They had something to prove. Margie first began her college career at University of Evansville; however, courtship between the couple, and a family move, resulted in her withdrawal from studies. She later completed her degree in elementary education from USI in 1972 as part of USI’s second graduating class.

When asked about their affinity to the University, Robbie quips “Dr. David L. Rice was the perfect scholar to lead USI – he believed that education was paramount. He was structured, yet flexible, and became one of the most respected and admired advocates for higher education.” However, the Kents also state it has been a privilege to watch all four presidents, each with their renewed energy, talents and positive direction, grow and mold the institution.

Robbie built a distinguished career in the automotive industry as he owned and operated 11 automotive franchises. He is well-known throughout the Evansville community for his chairmanship of Kenny Kent Toyota Lexus and Kenny Kent Chevrolet, founded by his father. He credits all his success to his employees, customers and the products he represented. His warm personality shows how much he cares for people and his business model was centered around such truth. “People know honesty when they see it, being authentic in all we do is important,” he notes.

The Kents spent a great deal of time over the years thinking how to best invest in the University. They became active members in USI Athletics and provided support to the Presidential Scholarships by establishing their own scholarship endowment. In 2009, they made a leadership gift to establish an endowment to benefit academic programs of the University. Because of their generous gesture, the Robert M. Kent Family Fountain, located at the entrance to the USI campus, was named in their honor. In 2019, the Kents made an additional leadership gift to honor the first four presidents of the University. Their giving continues to reflect the value they place in public higher education and the USI experience. The USI Foundation also benefits from their immeasurable volunteer service and insight.

Robbie received an honorary doctorate from the University in 2009. In many ways it made his own educational journey come full circle, receiving a degree from the college he first attended. In addition to Margie’s degree from USI, their daughter, Lauren ’12, continued the family’s alumni legacy as a bachelor of science graduate with ultrasound specialization.

“We hope every USI student fulfills their dreams, finishes their degree and not only change, but improve the world,” they both say in unison. For the Kents, USI is setting an unmatched foundation for students to achieve their goals and ambitions. It is a great honor for them to invest in the University and assist students pursuing their dreams. The Kents are true champions of the USI mission.

Support of USI is among the many accomplishments of the Rapps.



Dr. George F. and Margaret M. “Peggy” Rapp

There is no denying Dr. George and Peggy Rapp are New Harmony enthusiasts. From philanthropy to volunteerism to hometown roots, the Rapps are often synonymous with the town’s modern-day preservation efforts.

Dr. Rapp’s name is uniquely New Harmony – his first name George, after George Rapp the founder of New Harmony, and middle name Frederick, after Frederick Rapp a successful New Harmony businessman – that it nearly invokes a life as charming as the town itself. Coming of age during the Great Depression, Dr. Rapp witnessed the oil boom that occurred throughout southern Indiana and Illinois. Believing oil would be his path to success he originally wanted to be a geologist. However, upon arrival at Indiana University he soon discovered how unprepared he was for chemistry courses. By his junior year he was accepted to medical school on a half-tuition scholarship.

Mrs. Rapp, originally from Hammond, Indiana, also pursued a degree at Indiana University in education. Her suitemate was from New Harmony and one fall break they visited the town. Knowing Dr. Rapp’s family, Peggy and her friend stopped by the Rapp’s home to pick-up a winter coat for Dr. Rapp’s sister. It wasn’t long after the chance encounter that a budding relationship began.

The Rapps waited until after Mrs. Rapp’s graduation from IU to wed. Mrs. Rapp then taught three years in the Indianapolis school system while Dr. Rapp finished medical school and his orthopedic residency – quickly noting she taught kindergarten classes twice a day, with a class never being less than 41 students. She continued to teach until their first son was born.

In addition to operating his private practice, Dr. Rapp was a clinical professor of orthopedic surgery at Indiana University School of Medicine. He also served as chief of orthopedic surgery at St. Vincent Medical Center for 18 years and spent 20 years as the director of the Scoliosis Clinic at Riley Children’s Hospital.

Over the years, the Rapps realized their contributions to the town of New Harmony were needed. Their success provided for an investment opportunity to keep the historic setting of New Harmony vibrant. Mrs. Rapp served on the USI/New Harmony Foundation Board, known today as the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board, founded and chaired the New Harmony Beautification Committee, co-founded the New Harmony Garden Club and spent many years organizing the Summer Hat Luncheon in New Harmony. The Rapps are most fond of their contributions to establish the New Harmony Paint-Out, in which hundreds of artists visit New Harmony to paint the town’s most attractive sights. In addition, the Rapps co-founded the Hoosier Salon Gallery in New Harmony as a way to support aspiring Hoosier artists.

The Rapps have established a charitable trust to provide direct investment to the USI Foundation and Historic New Harmony. The gifts will support scholarships, programming in New Harmony, as well as the arts and culture of the University.

In 2011, the Rapps were awarded honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Southern Indiana. Dr. Rapp notes they took great pride in receiving this high honor. Their continued involvement and contributions to the University have ensured the ideas of New Harmony are eternal — education, work, equality and civic collaboration are the cornerstone to a fulfilling life.

*Dave and Darlene
Robinson are
ardent supporters
of the University of
Southern Indiana.*



David K. “Dave” ’74 and M. Darlene Robinson

Behind Dave Robinson’s humble approach to life is a highly intelligent and thoughtful individual who credits USI with his ability to transform his life through education. He notes the establishment of an institution of public higher education in Evansville allowed him the opportunity to receive a college degree. The second oldest in a family of eight children, the University also offered a college experience close to home, at an affordable cost.

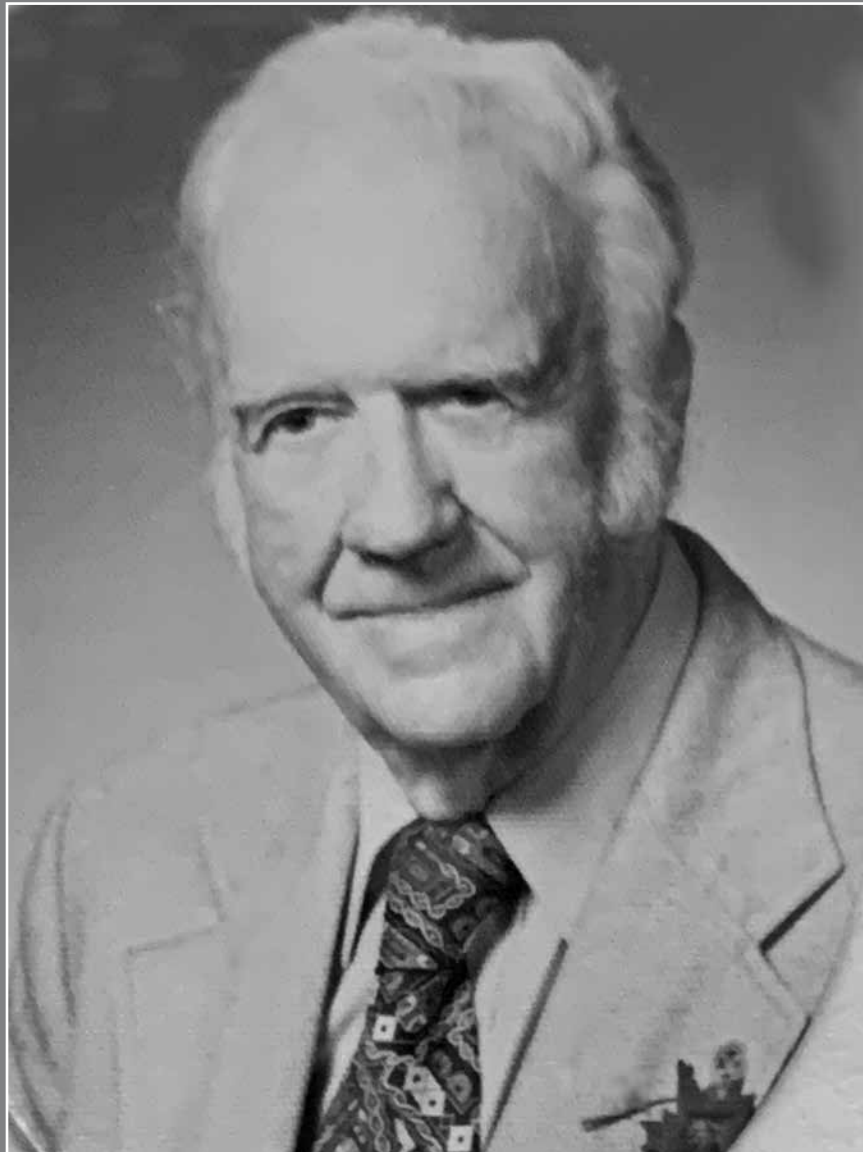
Shortly after graduating from USI, Dave chose to pursue a career in law. He attended the University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law and graduated in 1977. In 1978, he passed the bar exam and was admitted to legal practice. Today, Dave’s law practice is well-established on the west side of Evansville where he specializes in personal injury and representing clients with Social Security disability and estate planning.

“I was born and raised in Evansville. Growing up in a large, rambunctious family and working in my parents’ restaurant taught me the value of hard work and relationships with people, regardless of background. My love of this community and its hardworking people are the reasons that I started Robinson Law Office,” he states. Dave certainly shows his love of community. A graduate and advocate of Mater Dei High School, he serves as a trustee on the President’s Council. Dave and Darlene also are members of St. Philip Catholic Church where they volunteer their time and expertise.

Dave has served as a member of the USI Foundation Board of Directors since 2016 and served as a volunteer during the University’s first capital campaign, *Campaign USI: Education Taken Higher*. Wanting to continue the great university experience and education USI offers students, the Robinsons are members of the President’s Associates and annually help underwrite the University’s greatest needs.

Dave and Darlene are the parents of three adult sons, Michael, Christopher and Andrew. The family alumni legacy and tradition continued when Christopher graduated from USI in 2007.

The Sanders held true to the belief that an education is the key to a successful and rewarding life.



John L. Sanders and Evelyn K. Oeth-Sanders

John L. Sanders was the consummate gentleman. An attorney for 73 years in the Evansville area, Mr. Sanders was a compassionate person who immensely cared about the people he served. He was known for his well-tailored suits and always adorned with a fresh rose in his lapel.

Graduating from Indiana University in 1921, Mr. Sanders quickly sought his Juris Doctorate. In order to pay for tuition and expenses, he raised bees and sold the honey they produced. In 1923 he was admitted to the bar and began his practice in Evansville the same year. Mr. Sanders continued to practice even after turning 100 years old. He was quoted as saying, "Take good care of the body. It's just a machine to carry the head around." Over the course of his law career he received many honors and special recognitions which included the Sagamore of the Wabash in 1995, Indiana's highest civilian honor.

Mr. Sanders and Mrs. Oeth-Sanders wed in 1977 and both said their 19-year marriage was the most meaningful part of their lives. Mrs. Oeth-Sanders worked as the personnel and industrial relations secretary for over 40 years at the former Bucyrus-Erie Company. Both had previous marriages but no children. That never kept them from offering advice for those wanting to know more about living a long and fulfilling life.

In addition to their professional careers, the Sanders' civic engagement kept them active. Both were long standing members of Evansville's Downtown Kiwanis Club. Mrs. Oeth-Sanders also was a member of the Eastern Star, Metro Business & Professional Women's Club and Sinawik. Mr. Sanders additionally was a member of the Kennel Club and Reed Masonic Lodge #316.

As if his life story wasn't colorful enough, Mr. Sanders found joy in many hobbies. Namely he loved to paint and grow flowers – probably to support his honeybee business. He also enjoyed traveling. In a *Courier & Press* article celebrating his 100th birthday, Mrs. Oeth-Sanders stated, "Before I met him, I never knew it was possible for anyone to be that nice...he always was kind and he had the most wonderful disposition. He never got angry."

Mrs. Oeth-Sanders certainly lived and died as she wanted. Her "feisty spirit" was made evident in her funeral plans which called for no visitation or services. Upon her death in 2007, the University of Southern Indiana Foundation received a gift from the couple's remaining estate. This gift established the John L. and Evelyn O. Sanders Endowment which allows for unrestricted use by the USI Foundation. This investment allows the University to meet the greatest needs of students and programs as they arise. The Sanders became perpetual members of the President's Associates and *Reflections* posthumously.

*The Schutzes have
a rich history with
the University of
Southern Indiana.*



John L. '82 and Cindy E. Schutz

An exceptional alumnus, John has always been prepared to serve his alma mater. His humble approach to leadership is shown in his countless efforts to support USI students. He always notes that his actions are not about recognition but to “preserve this institution and the limitless opportunity it provides.”

Originally from New Harmony, Indiana, John graduated as salutatorian of his class and was offered a merit scholarship to attend USI. He knew early on he wanted to remain close to home and enroll at a small university. Although he was prepared for the college experience, little did he know at the time how much USI was going to mature his talents and afford him an extraordinary life.

John was active in many groups on campus as a student – MidAmerica Singers, Student Government Association, the Student Union and a fraternity member of Sigma Tau Gamma. However, the moment that brought the most pride to him as a student was his address before the Indiana Senate Higher Education Committee in 1981. John represented the voice of the student body as USI continued to seek its own independence. He foreshadowed his own involvement with the University by saying, “The Evansville students and the Evansville community have already demonstrated many times over their support for this institution and their willingness to actively participate in its development.” He has never forgotten this message and continues to take up that mantle today.

John is also proud of the fact he rarely misses home basketball games at the University. Long standing members of the USI Varsity Club, athletics fans can see the genuine support and care the Schutzes have for student athletes. In 2019, as the Screaming Eagles Arena was opening to the public, John and Cindy decided a leadership investment was needed more than ever. They provided a gift to support a fulltime athletics position to build a long-lasting tradition in the athletics program, particularly among students. He says, “This gift is ultimately about bonding with each other and to build and foster ongoing relationships between the community, students and our exceptional athletic programs.”

John additionally provides service to the University by teaching a retirement planning course through Outreach & Engagement’s Lifelong Learning. Since 1986 John has worked as a wealth and financial advisor. His experience in the financial services industry lends immense guidance and knowledge to those planning for the future. Today, he is a successful partner at the Schutz Perigo Group of Baird. Cindy enjoyed a career with Mead Johnson/Bristol Myers Squibb.

“We’ve always had the mindset that collectively we can make a difference,” the Schutzes state. Shortly after graduation John saw fit to organize the annual alumni phonathon, a position he chaired for almost a decade. In those early years of recruiting fellow alumni to invest in the University he saw everyone’s contributions as part of the larger whole. Together, investments allow USI to chart its destiny and provide an incomparable education for students.

John and Cindy Schutz are perpetual members of the President’s Associates, recognized as members of the 1965 Society, the President’s Circle and John also received the Alumni Service Award in 2012. John devotes time and service to the USI Foundation Board of Directors, chairing the Alumni Major Gifts committee. The Schutzes see the University’s reach as continuing to expand across the nation and globe. Their good works and generosity certainly provide for this reality.

*The Seamans
knew USI and
its students
were worthy of
investment.*



E. Harvey and Shirley C. Seaman

After 51 years of marriage, Harvey and Shirley Seaman had lived a well-rounded life full of wonderful moments. Much of their joy was found in giving back to the community and supporting causes they cared for deeply.

Mr. Seaman was founder, owner and president of Product Acceptance and Research (PAR), a national marketing and research firm located in Evansville, Indiana. The firm would collect data for companies wanting to introduce new merchandise or packaging in order to understand consumer habits and concerns. Today, PAR has expanded its services into information technology consulting. Mrs. Seaman served PAR as vice president of operations.

The Seamans were lifelong members of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in New Harmony, where Mr. Seaman served on the standing committee of the church and other offices of the diocese. Their community service extended to many local organizations including WNIN and the Evansville Association for the Blind. Mr. Seaman also held memberships in the Zoo Foundation, the Auxiliary Foundation of the University of Indianapolis and the Indiana State Handicapped Use Commission.

The relationship the Seaman's held with the University of Southern Indiana grew when their daughter, Ann Seaman Lamb, class of 1978, graduated from the University. Ann's daughters, Amy Flittner, class of 2004, and Katie Lamb, class of 2012, additionally carried on the alumni legacy in the family.

In 1995 the couple invested in Habitat for Humanity of Evansville by personally sponsoring a home. This was the first time in the local affiliate's history an individual provided the \$30,000 necessary for a home. At the time of their gift, Mr. and Mrs. Seaman were both unable to physically contribute to the construction of the home. However, their sons volunteered time to "pound nails" and saw it finished.

Additionally, in 1995, the Seaman's made their first major gift to USI establishing the E. Harvey and Shirley Seaman Merit Scholarship for Business. Over the years they continued to invest in this scholarship and it now provides for annual scholarships to attract and retain top merit students for the Romain College of Business. Prior to the establishment of their endowment, Mr. and Mrs. Seaman volunteered time to the University and were members of the President's Associates for many years.

Although Mrs. Seaman died in 2002, at age 73, and Mr. Seaman died in 2005, at age 80, their legacy will live forever through the USI graduates they helped achieve their goal.

The Trockman family remains dedicated to the University.



Wayne S. '81 and Jill M. Trockman

Wayne and Jill Trockman have been connected to the University of Southern Indiana for many years. Wayne and son, Ben '14, are both dedicated alumni. Jill also attended USI before she entered the workforce fulltime. At each moment in their journey, the Trockmans have viewed USI as an asset to their family, careers and the community.

The Trockmans both grew up in Evansville, graduating from Harrison High School. Wayne originally pursued his higher education at Indiana University. However, a budding relationship between Wayne and Jill eventually called him back home where he finished his undergraduate work at USI. "To be quite truthful," Jill states, "Wayne showed up on my front porch one day and never left. That is the true story of how we started dating." Thirty-five years later, the Trockmans can credit the University for offering them the opportunity to enjoy wedded bliss. The Trockmans have two sons, Josh, a graduate of Indiana University, and Ben.

In 1985, Wayne graduated from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. That same year he began private practice work at Newman, Trockman, Lloyd, Flynn & Rheinlander in Evansville and was a partner at the firm until 1999. In December of 1998, Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon appointed Wayne to the Vanderburgh Superior Court bench, an office to which he has been continually reelected.

When son Ben suffered an injury in 2006 from a motocross accident, it left him paralyzed from the neck-down. A junior in high school at the time, the Trockmans knew intensive therapy lay ahead. However, they also wondered what a college experience would look like for their son as he pursued his educational goals. Once Ben was ready to enroll in college, they looked to USI as their college of choice. "Everyone created a culture of support," they note. The University went to great lengths to ensure Ben felt included and ensure his success. "It was a positive experience. As a mother, I could not have asked for anything more to see my son attain his degree," Jill stated proudly.

Before Ben's accident, he enjoyed athletics, particularly baseball, and he aspired to play at the collegiate level. To honor his final achievements in higher education at USI, the family worked together to establish a scholarship to benefit a baseball student athlete at USI. Ben's uncle and aunt, Steve '84 and Julie Karp, made the initial gift for the scholarship and also fund it today. "Ben can live vicariously through this scholarship, and it draws him even closer to the University," the Trockmans state. They continue to invest in this scholarship to give back to the University which provided for their own footing in life.

Wayne and Jill see USI as a vital component to our community. They have seen firsthand the impact of a USI education and want their continued financial gifts to afford other students the same experience. Wayne served on the USI Foundation Board of Directors for six years, beginning in 1997. He continues to offer his talents to the USI Foundation Advisory Council. In 2019, Wayne was the commencement speaker for the Romain College of Business.

"USI will continue to grow in prominence – not just regionally, but on a national and global level. We draw students far and wide and we hope our contributions help in those efforts." The Trockmans dedication to the University and its students reflects their genuine care for their community and their great love for the transformational value of a higher education.

*Vectren continues
to invest in USI
to benefit all
community
members.*



Vectren, a CenterPoint Energy Company

In 2000, Vectren was formed from the merger of Indiana Gas Company and Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company. The two companies were mainstays in the utility industry since the early 1900s and the merger provided additional potential. In the fall of 2000, Vectren also acquired the natural gas distribution assets of Dayton Power and Light in west central Ohio, expanding its reach in the Midwest. In the fall of 2006, Vectren also purchased Duke Energy's interest in Miller Pipeline.

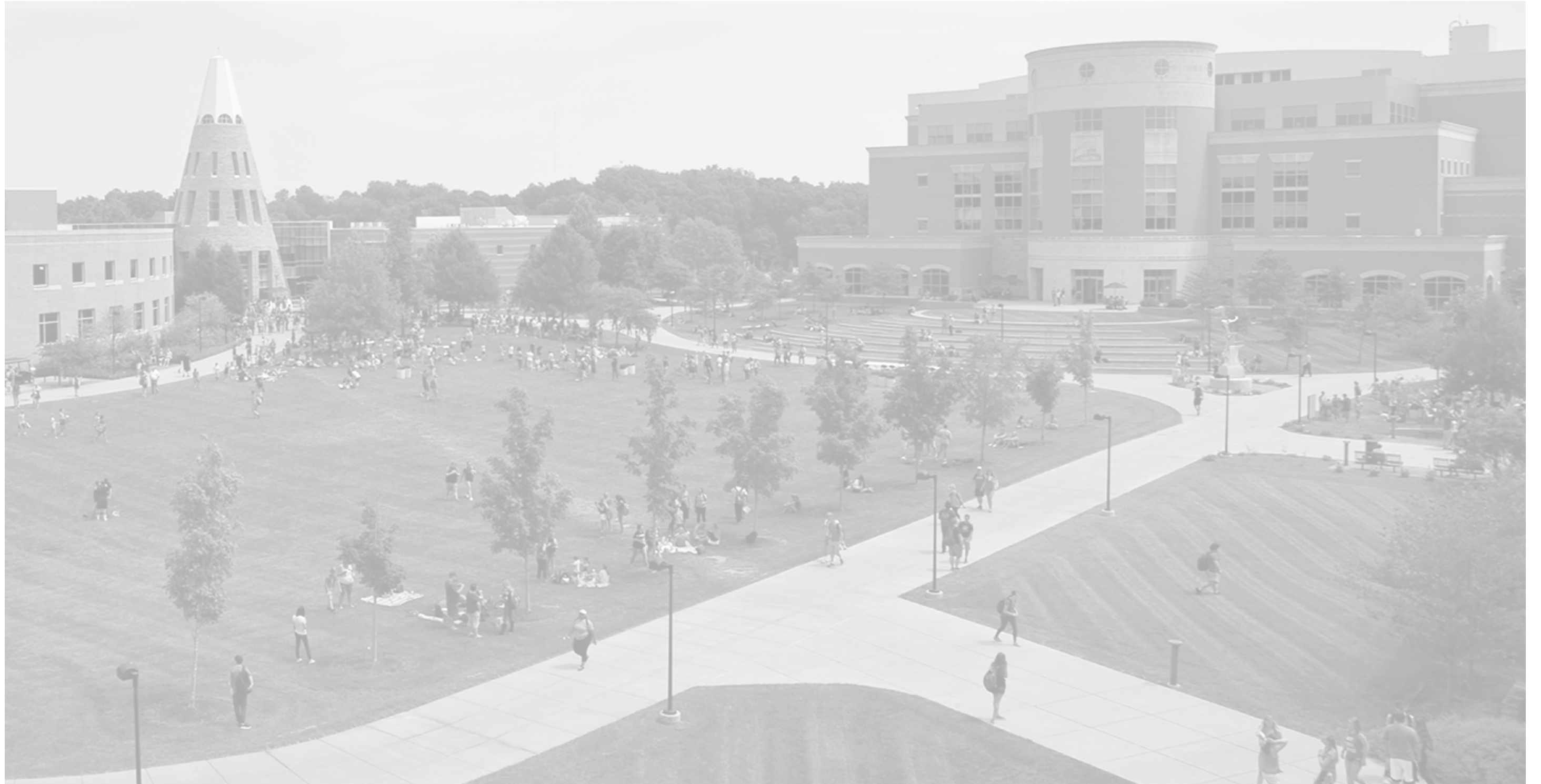
Today, the company is now part of CenterPoint Energy, headquartered in Houston, Texas. The company provides natural gas and/or electricity to more than 1 million customers in adjoining service territories that cover nearly two-thirds of Indiana and about 20% of Ohio, primarily in the west-central area. Under this new combined company, the organization has electric and natural gas delivery operations in eight states with assets totaling \$29 billion and an enterprise value of \$27 billion. Together, Vectren and CenterPoint Energy employ approximately 9,600 individuals.

Vectren has a well-known physical presence in Evansville. Its main facility here is located on the riverfront and visible in the city's skyline. Vectren has a visible presence through its charitable work in each community it serves.

The Vectren Foundation was established in 2000. Since that time, the foundation has provided more than \$45 million in grants and contributions to nonprofits in Indiana and Ohio. Through these efforts, Vectren has invested in local communities to ensure an increased quality of life for residents, help children gain access to quality educational programs, provide adults workforce training that will give them access to jobs with a fair living wage and additionally ensure communities are safe and green.

Vectren and the University of Southern Indiana have enjoyed a partnership over many years. During *Campaign USI: Elevating Excellence* Vectren made a leadership gift to endow a scholarship specifically for recruiting and retaining students of diverse backgrounds to build a strong base of support for underrepresented students attaining a higher education. Vectren has additionally been generous over the years to the University by providing sponsorships and underwriting many campus community and alumni events. Vectren has also been a partner in supporting multiple annual giving programs at the University.

USI and Vectren serve the community in different ways, but their view of education and the impact it has on the community unites them.



CONSTANT, FAITHFUL, AND TRUE

WHERE THE NORTH MEETS THE SOUTH,
AND THE EAST MEETS THE WEST,
WHERE ROADS CROSS TALL FIELDS OF GRAIN,
WHERE EVANSVILLE STANDS ON THE OHIO'S ROUGH SANDS,
MAY WE EVERMORE HEAR THAT REFRAIN.

USI... USI...

CONSTANT, FAITHFUL, AND TRUE.
WE'LL REMEMBER OUR HOME, WHEREVER WE ROAM.
IN OUR HEARTS, WE'LL BE LOYAL TO YOU.

ON THESE GROUNDS BY THE PEOPLE,
FOR THE PEOPLE ENDOWED,
WE HONOR THE RED, BLUE, AND WHITE
AND THAT NAME WE'LL HOLD DEAR
TO THE END OF OUR YEARS
AS WE LIFT UP OUR VOICES ON HIGH.

USI... USI...

CONSTANT, FAITHFUL, AND TRUE.
WE'LL REMEMBER OUR HOME, WHEREVER WE ROAM.
IN OUR HEARTS, WE'LL BE LOYAL TO YOU.

IN OUR HEARTS, WE'LL BE LOYAL TO YOU.

Alma Mater
University of Southern Indiana
Lyrics by David G. O'Neil—Music by Daniel R. Craig
2018

USI Foundation Board Chairs

Joseph E. O'Daniel†
1968–1973

Albert A. Woll†
1973–1976

E. Donald Elliott†
1976–1986

R. Jack Brunton†
1986–1987

C. Wayne Worthington†
1987–1992

Ted C. Ziemer Jr.†
1992–1998

Robert E. Griffin
1998–2000

John M. Dunn
2000–2002

Carolyn S. Georgette†
2002–2003

Ronald D. Romain '73
2003–2006

Thomas E. Topper†
2006–2008

Bix Branson
2008–2010

Kevin M. Eastridge
2010–2012

Bruce H. Baker
2012–2014

Marie A. Bussing
2014–2016

Kevin L. Hammett '90
2016–2018

Karen S. Walker
2018–2020

Trudy J. Stock '86
2020-current

† Deceased

