



Your Legacy

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By Lorna Stafford
San Antonio Area Foundation

Legacy is not a notion, it's a lifestyle for David R. Schmidt, M.D. You might say it is hardwired into his DNA.

As a young boy, Dr. Schmidt watched his grandfather and father give to neighbors in need, put money into the collection plate at church, and live by the mantra, "to much is given, much is required." His family was not wealthy by any means, but they shared whatever they could, whenever they could.

"I just remember my grandfather worked hard, and my father worked hard, but they always gave back to their communities. If your friend's truck broke down, you helped," said Dr. Schmidt, also known as the "Spurs doctor" by the local community.

Dr. Schmidt is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon whose practice specialty is sports medicine. His office has become the epicenter for high school and professional sports injury treatment, including treatment of the five-time NBA champion San Antonio Spurs. But it is giving back that remains at the heart of everything he does and it's a legacy that he is passing on to the next generation. He taught his children at a young age the importance of giving.

"They would get an allowance, but they still had to put a portion of it in the (church offering) plate," he said. I think it's really important to teach young kids to give back whether it's volunteering at school or putting some money in the plate at church."

Dr. Schmidt and his wife, Teresa, are most proud of the fact that their son Benjamin, a Marine Scout Sniper who was killed in Afghanistan, left \$200,000 to his alma mater TCU.

Dr. Schmidt and his wife have given back to the community for at least 30 years. They also opened a scholarship fund at the Area Foundation in April 2000 and since that time have awarded more than \$70,000 in scholarships to area students.

As for creating a legacy, his advice is simply to do it and lean on the Area Foundation as a resource and guide.

"I know when you are a struggling young couple that it is difficult to say 'OK, we have to give back,' but remember, it is not yours to begin with. Everything we get comes from God and we should treat it as a gift. I have no intention of retiring soon, but the next step is trying to figure out what to do with the funds we created. I know and trust that the Area Foundation can help us with that."

If you would like to learn more about creating legacy, contact Araceli Calvillo at acalvillo@saafdn.org to find out about the Area Foundation's planned giving options.

FROM THE CEO

The generous gifts of Dr. and Mrs. David R. Schmidt exemplify what many donors at the Area Foundation are doing for our community. Their desire to see those gifts continue through future generations is something we hope more donors will consider.

Becoming a Visionary Circle member means you are pledging to ensure that nonprofits have the capacity to foster generational success through your planned gifts. The process is easy. Simply consider leaving the Area Foundation in your estate plan. As Dr. Schmidt noted, our philanthropic advisors can walk you through the options to find a plan that specifically suits your vision.

Additionally, I greatly appreciate all you are doing to make our community a place to live and thrive, and I thank you in advance for considering future generations through a planned gift.

*Sincerely,
Marjie French*



DONOR INVOLVEMENT



GRANT DEADLINE APPROACHING

The end of the year is near and that means grant deadlines are looming. If you would like to **grant from your fund for 2019**, the **deadline** to do so is **December 11**. Also, **contributions to your fund** must be **postmarked and submitted by December 31** in order to receive your 2019 tax deduction.



PHILANTHROPY ASSISTANCE

Our philanthropic team can help determine the fund that best fits what you want to achieve. Whether it is establishing a planned gift, scholarship fund, special interest fund or more, we can help you reach your charitable goals. **Call us at 210.775.1083 to begin the process.**



PHILANTHROPY FOR BUSINESS

Hurricane season is here, and the Area Foundation has resources and assistance to help businesses in need. Our team is available to help your business prepare for the storm or to bounce back if the storm leaves hardship in its path. **Contact Jennifer Ballesteros at 210.775.6295 or jballesteros@saafdn.org to find out more.**