



Legacy of Caring

Spring 2008

HealthEast Foundation Legacy Society

Member Leaves Gift to Passport



Lorraine Mohr

**LORRAINE MOHR'S
GIFTS TO
HEALTHEAST DEFINE
HER LEGACY OF
GENEROSITY
THAT WILL BE
REMEMBERED
BY MANY.**

A will is one of the most important documents you can own, yet surveys show only four out of 10 Americans have current wills. A current will provides you with an opportunity to distribute your estate according to your wishes. Having a will in place removes the burden from your loved ones of trying to distribute your assets.

There are many advantages of designating a charitable gift via a will, also known as a bequest. During your lifetime, a bequest is private, changeable at any time, and does not deprive you of the use of assets or income. Depending on the size of your estate and the charitable gift, there can also be significant tax savings for your heirs.

A dear friend of HealthEast, Lorraine Mohr, understood the benefits of giving charitable gifts through her will.

Mohr was born to Richard and Nellie Guslander on Aug. 3, 1914, in Marine on St. Croix, Minn. A graduate of the Bethesda School of Nursing, Mohr spent 20 years at Bethesda Hospital and was head nurse on the surgical floor for 16 of those years. She was also active in Bethesda Nurses' Alumnae, the Schubert Club, the American Swedish Institute

and the Volksfest Association, and was a Republican precinct chairwoman. Besides working in the nursing field, she was also an active Goodwill volunteer for 25 years. At Goodwill, Mohr was president and Volunteer of the Year, and she also received Goodwill's Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award.

When Mohr passed away in 2007, she left an extremely generous gift to the Passport Program in her will. The Passport Program was instrumental in setting up transportation needs for Mohr, making sure she always was able to get to where she needed to be. We are so grateful to her for remembering Passport in this significant way.

Mohr touched other areas of HealthEast as well. Because her husband, Alfred, spent his last hours in HealthEast Hospice Care, she also gave a bequest to Hospice, along with several other organizations that were important to her.

The dedication and generosity of Mohr enables us to offer a vision of future programs that bring hope and health to others. For more information on how you can leave a legacy to HealthEast, please contact Joan Pennington at (651) 232-4937.

bequests

Estate Planning With Bequests

HealthEast Foundation Legacy Society

The HealthEast Foundation Legacy Society recognizes individuals for their commitment to compassionate, quality health care through planned gifts and special contributions to HealthEast Care System. The Legacy Society is designed to provide opportunities for donors to stay connected with HealthEast and its programs. The dedication and generosity of Legacy Society members enable us to offer a vision of future programs that bring hope and health to our community.

For more information on the benefits of joining the Legacy Society, please call the HealthEast Foundation at (651) 232-4990.

MISSION

THE HEALTHEAST FOUNDATION DEVELOPS PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT, CONSISTENT WITH OUR JUDEO-CHRISTIAN HERITAGE, TO BENEFIT PATIENTS AND THE COMMUNITIES SERVED BY HEALTHEAST CARE SYSTEM.

You have several smart choices to direct the maximum inheritance to loved ones after you are gone. But if your estate is sizable, minimizing the federal estate tax stands head and shoulders above all others.

CONSIDER A CHARITABLE BEQUEST

By making bequests of particular assets to the HealthEast Foundation, which is exempt from federal estate taxes, you can actually preserve more of your estate for the benefit of loved ones. For example, IRAs and other retirement plan assets are taxed twice at death, first as part of your taxable estate and second as income to the beneficiary. Rather than leaving IRA or retirement plan assets to family members, consider the following alternative.

Example: *Betty plans to leave \$250,000 to her niece, Karen, and \$250,000 to the HealthEast Foundation. Among her assets,*

Betty owns a \$250,000 IRA. If she leaves the IRA to Karen, it will be subject to estate taxes (up to a maximum rate of 45 percent in 2008 for estates worth more than \$2 million) and income taxes at Karen's marginal rate (25 percent). Instead, Betty plans to leave the IRA to us and less tax-burdened assets to Karen. Thanks to the unlimited estate tax charitable deduction, no estate tax will be levied on the IRA. And because our organization is tax-exempt, we won't owe income tax either.



DO YOU WANT TO LEAVE A LEGACY FOR YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND THE HEALTHEAST FOUNDATION?

Learn how to plan for tomorrow at our web site, www.HealthEast.org/foundation. Click on "Ways to Give" in the left-hand column. You won't find a more complete resource for estate and charitable planning anywhere else on the web.

- Discover a virtual encyclopedia of information on how and what to give.
- Access hundreds of up-to-date articles on making the most of your charitable giving.
- Calculate your income tax deduction for charitable gifts.

HealthEast[®]
Care System



HealthEast Foundation
1690 University Ave. W., Suite 250
Saint Paul, MN 55104
(651) 232-4990
www.HealthEast.org/foundation



recycled paper

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Organize Your Estate Today...

And Have Peace of Mind Tomorrow

It is estimated that as many as 60 percent of Americans don't have an estate plan. Yet, in the long run, few things are more essential to your family's future—and your own peace of mind—than estate planning. If you don't have an estate plan, do yourself and your family a favor. Create one.

GETTING STARTED

A good first step in putting together your estate plan is realizing how important such a plan is and how much it can accomplish.

With a properly prepared estate plan, you can provide for family members, including dependents under your care. You can help other relatives, support your favorite charitable organizations, reduce taxes on your estate and even provide for the care of your pets.

You can also ease the strain on your family by spelling out specific wishes prior to your death, which then frees survivors from making some potentially difficult decisions.

TEN-POINT CHECKLIST

There is a lot to consider when making an estate plan; therefore, it is wise to contact an estate planning attorney to assist you. Following are 10 things you should do when creating your estate plan:

- 1. Decide** which people or charitable organizations should receive your assets and whether the bequests should be made outright or in a trust.
- 2. Choose** a trusted family member, friend or professional fiduciary—such as a bank or trust company—to administer your estate, which includes following the directions in your will and distributing assets.
- 3. Prepare** an advanced directive to indicate who should make health care decisions on your behalf if you become incapacitated.
- 4. Create** a letter of instruction to spell out funeral plans, including the names of people you want contacted at your death.
- 5. Calculate** your net worth and list all of your financial assets; be sure to include bank account numbers, insurance policies and retirement assets.
- 6. Give** careful thought as to who should receive treasured family items.
- 7. Record** where assets are located, where copies of prior years' tax returns can be found, and the name of your accountant or lawyer.
- 8. Put together** a list of all of your personal data, including your Social Security number and date of birth.

- 9. List** the location of valuable documents, such as a car title and your marriage certificate.

- 10. Make** sure your will is available outside of your safe-deposit box, which in some states can be closed when you die and not immediately accessible.

DON'T FORGET TO UPDATE

Having an estate plan is vital, but having one that is up to date is just as important. You should periodically review your estate plan to make sure it still reflects your desires and wishes.

Certain life events may require more frequent updates. For instance, a revision may be necessary if a grandchild is born or if you or someone in your family gets divorced. And you will definitely want to look at your estate plan in any year that the value of your estate changes by more than 20 percent, or if any beneficiary predeceases you.

When properly prepared and regularly updated, an estate plan is one of the best ways to provide lasting benefits to the people and charitable organizations you hold close to your heart.

Be sure to contact an estate planning attorney to aid in creating or updating your estate plan.

Plan for Tomorrow by

Preparing Your Will Today

Heraclitus of Greece, an ancient philosopher, once said, “There is nothing permanent except change.”

Even though things are constantly changing, many people still try to prepare for tomorrow by regularly completing routine tasks today.

Why should updating a will be any different?

Your will reflects the time when it was created. Many people plan to update their wills but often fail to do it. You can always change your will by adding a codicil (an amendment), but how do you know when to change it?

Here are some circumstances that make it vital to update your will:

- The estate tax laws have changed. A cloud of uncertainty lingers over the federal estate tax, which is scheduled to disappear in 2010—only to be reinstated in 2011. If you die in 2008,

estate taxes are assessed if you own more than \$2 million.

- You want to name a different personal representative, trustee or guardian.
- Your estate has increased or decreased significantly.
- You’ve moved to another state.
- Your situation or a beneficiary’s situation has changed. Families change because of marriage, divorce, birth, adoption and death.
- You want to include a charitable bequest in your will. If you wish to remember the organizations closest to your heart, consider bequeathing a gift of cash, real estate or other property.

If you have additional questions on updating your will or are considering adding a charitable bequest, please contact an estate planning attorney and the HealthEast Foundation.

Update Your Will In Four Easy Steps

If you think your will needs updating, implement the following steps:

1. Obtain a copy of your current will.
2. Mark the necessary changes.
3. Meet with your financial and legal advisors.
4. Discuss changes with our office if they will affect our organization.

Remembering HealthEast Foundation

Sample Bequest Language for Wills and Codicils

I, (name) of (city, state, zip) devise and bequeath to the HealthEast Foundation, a not-for-profit, 501c3, of Suite 250, 1690 University Avenue West, St. Paul, Minnesota 55104, _____ (written amount of percentage of estate or a description of the property) for the purpose of the _____ (unrestricted or specific).

Examine Your Alternatives

Discover how to ensure a secure financial future for your loved ones and our organization with our FREE brochure, *Use Your Will Power*. You’ll learn valuable tips and information on the benefits associated with estate planning. Simply return the enclosed reply card today!

