

# Annual donor becomes legacy donor, keeping his daughter's memory alive

Chris Arnold has experienced a parent's worst nightmare: the loss of a child. And yet, nearly three decades later, his daughter is remembered in the Central New York community because of her father's years-long dedication to planning and implementing Paige's Butterfly Run with assistance from the Upstate Foundation. Recently, with an eye to the future, Chris also created a legacy gift at the Foundation.

"The Upstate Foundation has been a great partner to help promote our mission," Chris said. "I'm sure we would not be as successful as we are today if it weren't for the assistance of the Foundation."

That mission is supporting children and their families at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital as they go through their unwanted pediatric cancer journeys, and perhaps even preventing future families from going on that journey by supporting local pediatric cancer research. It's a journey Chris and his then-wife Ellen Yeomans took when Paige was diagnosed with leukemia and succumbed at age 8 in 1994.

Paige's Butterfly Run has raised over \$4 million since its inception in 1997. Proceeds have funded unmet patient and family needs, nursing education, other pediatric cancer related programs and services, and research. Most recently, event proceeds helped establish the Paige Yeomans Arnold Endowed Professorship in Pediatric Oncology at the Upstate Foundation. The endowment will live in perpetuity at Upstate. Chris has designated his legacy gift to go to this endowment.

"Being able to help young children and their families through this process and through this difficult time in their lives means a lot to me. It's gratifying to me," Chris explained.

"Having worked with the Upstate Foundation for more than 25 years made the transition from annual giving to legacy giving easy for me," he added. "The Foundation is a trusted member of the community, a very large part of our philanthropic community in Central New York. They make the process easy for you, and you can be comfortable with how your gift – your legacy – will be handled in the future."

Chris is also encouraging those closest to him to think about the future. "There's no time like the present. I say, get it done and it'll be there when the time comes. It's so simple."



**Upstate Today & Tomorrow** highlights timely ideas and stories showing the profound impact of a planned gift to the Upstate Foundation.



For more information or to have a confidential conversation regarding your legacy gift plans, contact Carolyn Hendrickson at 315-464-6490 or hendricC@upstate.edu.

www.UpstateFoundation.org 750 E. Adams St. -Syracuse, NY 13210

UPSTATE FOUNDATION

Where your gift impacts the health of the entire region.

### Grateful patient's legacy gift impacts others who have multiple sclerosis

Being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis over 20 years ago was life-changing for W. Alan VanDeusen. An avid motorcyclist, he loved riding his Harley-Davidson with friends. He eventually had to downsize from his favorite bike, shown here, to "something smaller I could handle," he wrote just a few months before his passing in January 2023.

Alan's outlook remained upbeat during the years that MS impacted his lifestyle. He shared his desire to help others who had the disease with his neurologist, Dr. Corey McGraw, at one of his check-ups at Upstate's Multiple Sclerosis Clinic. In turn, Dr. McGraw reached out to the Upstate Foundation. As a result, Alan left a legacy gift through his will by designating the Upstate Foundation as a beneficiary. Alan's gift will support multiple sclerosis research and education of faculty, staff and patients.



## Leaving a legacy through your will – fulfilling your charitable goals

If you are an individual who desires to a leave a lasting legacy for a charitable entity or for a specific charitable purpose you are passionate about, the utilization of specific charitable bequests or residual charitable bequests under the provisions of your last will and testament are great ways to achieve your philanthropic goals and objectives.

By providing for a specific charitable bequest to the Upstate Foundation under your last will and testament, the Foundation will receive that specific dollar amount upon your passing. Whereas, by providing for a residual charitable bequest to the Upstate Foundation in your will, the Foundation will receive that certain percentage of your total net estate upon your passing, rather than a specific dollar amount. With either option you choose, you will have peace of mind knowing the Upstate Foundation will receive those funds to satisfy the charitable purposes which are important to you.

Including charitable bequests to the Upstate Foundation under the provisions of your last will and testament are one efficient method to help provide a positive lasting legacy, help others, and be personally rewarded knowing your charitable goals and objectives can be accomplished.

Robert D. Scolaro, Esq. Estate Planning Attorney Scolaro Law, PLLC



## Charitable gift annuities at the Upstate Foundation

Charitable gift annuities, commonly referred to as CGAs, can be one of the most practical ways to provide fixed income and support the Upstate Foundation at the same time.

Simply put, a CGA is an agreement between you and the Upstate Foundation whereby:

- the donor transfers cash or assets to the Foundation;
- the donor receives a tax deduction for the charitable portion of the gift;
- the donor and/or a loved one receives fixed income payments for the rest of their lives; and
- upon the death of the last annuitant, the remaining funds are used to leave a charitable gift.

As of December 2022, federal legislation allows for anyone 70½ or older to make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to \$50,000 from their IRA to open an immediate charitable gift annuity.

For more information or to receive a personalized illustration, contact Carolyn Hendrickson or visit www.UpstateFoundation.org/CGA.

"Legacy is about life and living. It's about learning from the past, living in the present, and building for the future." Susan V. Bosak, social researcher and educator

#### FUNDS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Upstate Foundation manages over 1,100 funds, the most of any charitable organization in the region, in support of patient care, education of health care providers, scientific research, and community health and well-being. Below are just a few of the Foundation's many funds.

Paige Yeomans Arnold Endowed Professorship in Pediatric Oncology #606 – To support the needs of the Dr. William J. Waters Center for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital.

**Upstate Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Center Fund #274** – To support multiple sclerosis research and education of faculty, staff and patients.

Friends of Neurology Fund #15644 – To provide support for the Neurology Department relating to areas of patient care, equipment/technology, education and research.

**Eunique Darby and Edward Swain Fund** #12990 – To support research and education in the areas of pediatric hematology and oncology. Campaign for Child and Adolescent Mental Health – To increase clinical capacity and improve access to critical mental health services for children and adolescents.

To find the fund – or create a new one – that matches your giving interests, contact the Foundation or visit www.UpstateFoundation.org/fundsearch