

Completing a circle of giving

An open letter from Omer and Claudia King

A decision by Omer King (SS '56) and his wife, Claudia, to establish a charitable remainder trust supporting Cal Poly's Centennial Campaign is rooted in their Cal Poly experiences. To Cal Poly's community of alumni and friends the Kings write:

Dear Cal Poly Alumni and Friends:

We had always hoped that we could do something special for Cal Poly. So much of our early life together revolved around the college and the area. We met in San Luis Obispo in 1953. So that I could earn my B.S. in soil science, Claudia supported us and was awarded one of President McPhee's traditional 'PHT (Pushing Hubby Through)' degrees. Kristin (HIST '80), our oldest daughter, was born at the old French Hospital.

Selling our family business, The Clarkson Company, renewed our interest in doing something for the school as part of the Centennial Campaign. We established a charitable remainder trust to create endowments for the Soil Science Department, the College of Agriculture's laboratory programs, and five student scholarships: the Joe and Florence Silva Memorial Scholarship in agriculture, the Lisle S. Green Memorial Scholarship in animal sciences, the Omer and Claudia King Soil Science Scholarship, the Kristin King Morana Scholarship in history, and the Horace C. Morana Scholarship for students in electrical engineering.

The trust allowed us to make a larger gift to Cal Poly because it was tax-free. In addition, we were able to deduct a portion of the gift from our income tax. Further gifts will also be partially tax deductible. The trust will provide income to us for the remainder of our lives or until we release the funds to the university.

We encourage others to participate in the Centennial Campaign by considering a planned gift to Cal Poly.

Omer King

Claudia King

For more information about Cal Poly life income gifts, contact Mike McCall, J. D., director of planned giving and endowments, at 805/756-7125, or toll free at 800/549-2666 (fax 805/756-2711). Email: mccall@calpoly.edu. (Photo by Cole Bybee/Karlen Design)