

St. Andrew's Receives Largest Bequest in School History in Final Year of Crossroads Campaign

Will Robinson, Oct 10 2012

In the fall of 1953, Chip Haselton's parents created an endowed scholarship fund with an initial gift of \$6,000 to help make the opportunity of St. Andrew's possible for future generations of St. Andreans. Over the years the fund steadily grew, thanks to sound investment and continuous support from Chip and his family. Upon Chip's passing this year, we learned that the fund would receive a bequest of almost \$2.9 million — the largest bequest in School history. With this gift the Norris S. Haselton, Sr. Scholarship Fund is now the largest endowed scholarship fund at St. Andrew's with a total value of \$3.6 million. The 5% annual draw is enough to fund more than three full scholarships every year.

"It was an honor for me to know Chip so well and to work with him for many years on the Alumni Board," praised Headmaster Tad Roach. "He was a thoughtful, gracious, and kind person, and he loved St. Andrew's—its people, its mission, its campus. Chip's bequest will literally enable us to change the lives of wonderful students and their families. It is a magnificent expression of his belief in the transformational power of St. Andrew's."

Chip's commitment to St. Andrew's extended far beyond philanthropy. Like so many of our alumni, he was a St. Andrean to his core. He supported the *St. Andrew's Magazine* in its first years as an ardent contributor, pushed alumni relations forward by introducing computer-based data management, and served for many years on the Alumni Association Board even driving to meetings from Miami where he lived. It was during those trips north that Chip would visit his old St. Andrew's mentors and friends, including Dick Barron, Kitty Schmolze and his schoolmates.

Still, he often said his greatest St. Andrew's moments were meeting those who benefitted from a Haselton Scholarship. Before his death he recalled meeting Scott Sipprelle '81 who, along with his three brothers, was a Haselton Scholar. "I still remember shaking hands with Scott who sought me out at a Reunion to thank me for the opportunity my family had given to him and his family. I cherish those moments as a proud St. Andrean."

Chip's bequest provides a critical boost to a financial aid program that is core to the founding mission of St. Andrew's. In 2012-2013 almost 150 students — or half the student body — will receive need-based financial aid at St. Andrew's with the average grant exceeding 75% of tuition. Our financial aid budget this year is \$5.1 million, a remarkable commitment to one of St. Andrew's most fundamental programs.

We thank Chip and his family for their dedication to St. Andrew's.