n 1976, Joseph Ramage was a young husband with a three-year-old daughter, living in Virginia and working for the Federal Reserve, when he felt a knot under his collarbone. When he got the Hodgkin’s disease diagnosis, the news was numbing. Fortunately, he consulted with a physician friend who immediately started making phone calls. “My friend said, ‘You need to try to go to Stanford first. There is a doctor named Dr. Henry Kaplan and he and his associates have developed a protocol. They are treating Hodgkin’s [malignancy of the lymph nodes] with great success. If your Hodgkin’s is at an early stage, I think you have a chance to hit a home run. And I don’t...”

Ways to Leave a Legacy at Stanford Medicine

> Continued

**Name Stanford as a beneficiary of a retirement plan.**

A gift of your retirement plan is a tax-efficient way to support Stanford Medicine after your lifetime. If your loved ones are the beneficiaries of your retirement plan assets, federal income taxes may erode a significant portion of the amount they receive from your plan. In contrast, Stanford is tax-exempt and eligible to receive the full amount and bypass any federal income taxes.

To arrange a gift of your retirement plan, contact your retirement plan administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form. Decide what percentage you would like for Stanford to receive, and name Stanford University School of Medicine (tax ID number 94-1156365) for a future gift to the School of Medicine or Stanford Health Care (tax ID number 94-6174066) for a future gift to Stanford Hospital on the change-of-beneficiary form. If you would like to designate a specific purpose for our use of this type of gift, please contact the Medical Center Development Office of Planned Giving at 650.723.6560 or pgmed@stanford.edu for assistance.
Continued from front
want either one of us to look back and think we could have hit a home run and we didn’t try,” says Mr. Ramage.

The next day, Mr. Ramage flew to California for his treatment: first surgery and then radiation, which lasted several months. The treatment, pioneered by Stanford radiologist Henry Kaplan, MD, and oncologist Saul Rosenberg, MD, relied on targeted radiation from a linear accelerator designed for medical use. It transformed a once-fatal disease into a highly curable one.

The treatment that Mr. Ramage received was intense, and he got very sick at times. He received a lot of help from friends, family, and Stanford all along the way. “I have tremendous appreciation for the care and attention I received, not just from the doctors, but also from the technicians who gave the X-ray treatments, the people who did the blood work, and those at the front desk. There was care in diagnosis and care in treatment in the radiation room. They were always cheery and upbeat. They just made you feel better than you felt when you walked in,” he says. Nearing the end of his treatment, he saw Dr. Kaplan.

“He was clearly in command and monitored the progress of each of his patients. He said, ‘I think we’ve done enough.’ What a relief that day was.”

For the past 38 years, Mr. Ramage has never missed an annual Stanford check-up.

“I have had the good fortune that I’m able to come back, and I appreciate the value of follow-ups that I’ve had,” he says.

Over the years, Mr. Ramage has faithfully made annual gifts to the Department of Radiation Oncology in gratitude for the care he received. He then decided that creating a lasting legacy was important to him, and he wanted to create an endowed research fund that would last in perpetuity. In addition, he has included Stanford as a beneficiary in his estate plans so that any future gift will be added to The Joseph C. Ramage Family Research Fund.

Successful Treatment Inspires Patient’s Gift

By making a gift now, during his lifetime, Mr. Ramage can see the impact he is making. And by adding to The Joseph C. Ramage Family Research Fund through his estate plans, he will further enhance his legacy.

By any measure, he has hit several home runs.

Give Hope to Others
You can make a planned gift to support future medical advances at Stanford Medicine. Contact 650.723.6560 or pgmed@stanford.edu.

Dr. Henry S. Kaplan and the linear accelerator used for cancer treatment in 1974.

Ways to Leave a Legacy at Stanford Medicine

Have you ever wondered how to turn your relationship with Stanford into a legacy that will carry on your values? Establishing an endowed fund in your name or the name of someone you wish to honor allows you to make a difference for generations to come. Take a moment to consider these options to establish a legacy through your estate plans.

Establish a charitable gift annuity.* This gift consists of a contract between you and Stanford University. You make a gift of cash or securities and we, in turn, pay you a fixed amount each year for the rest of your life. A portion of your gift qualifies for an immediate charitable income tax deduction, and a portion of your fixed payment may be income tax-free throughout your estimated life expectancy. After your lifetime, the remaining balance is used to support the purpose at Stanford Medicine that you have designated.

Set up a charitable remainder unitrust. With this type of gift, you receive variable income each year for the rest of your life. A charitable remainder unitrust can be funded with a variety of assets, most often cash, securities, and real estate. A portion of your gift qualifies for an immediate charitable income tax deduction. After your lifetime, the remaining balance in the trust passes to Stanford to support the purpose most important to you.

Include Stanford in your will or trust. A charitable bequest can be established by including an additional provision in your will or trust and can be modified throughout your lifetime as circumstances change. To incorporate a gift in your will or trust, contact us or return the enclosed remit response card requesting sample bequest language to share with your estate planning attorney. A bequest to Stanford University School of Medicine or Stanford Health Care is exempt from estate tax. You can give a specific item, a dollar amount, or a percentage of your estate.

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* Stanford welcomes charitable gift annuities with a minimum gift of $20,000. Regulations prevent Stanford from offering charitable gift annuities to residents of certain states, including Florida, Hawaii, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Washington.