

# here & now

Healthcare *for Life*. Your Guide to Legacy Giving.

## A Legacy of Caring

Dr. David Mathies knows he is one fortunate man. For almost forty years, his career in Huntsville and his association with our hospital have been mainstays in his life and highly satisfying ones. As David says, "Huntsville Hospital is centred on excellence. We provide a high quality of care, undertake progressive medical innovation and have a truly cohesive staff. You don't find that combination everywhere." It's why he and his wife Vicky have gladly supported the hospital for years with annual gifts. It's also why they have chosen to remember the hospital with a gift in their estate plans.

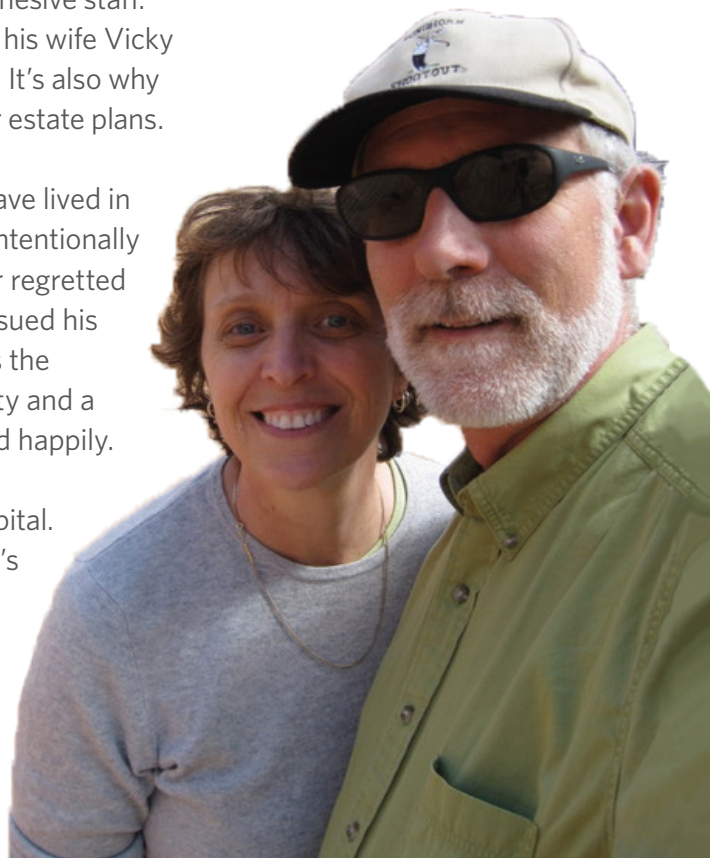
David and Vicky met at Western University in London and have lived in Huntsville since 1981. After considering many options, they intentionally chose Huntsville as a place to live and work. They have never regretted their decision. In addition to raising three children, David pursued his career as a family physician that included seventeen years as the hospital's Chief of Staff. Vicky taught for Laurentian University and a local Montessori school. And so the years passed quickly and happily.

Both David and Vicky have a deep respect for Huntsville Hospital. "One of the things we value most," says Vicky "is the hospital's community feel. You know the people and can see the interconnectedness of hospital and community daily." In the past year, Vicky has come to know the hospital even more thanks to her volunteer work with the hospital's Foundation.

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Vicky and David Mathies

“One of the things we value most is the hospital's community feel,” says Vicky.



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# Your Estate Can Shape the Future



## TAX BENEFITS FOR YOU

Every gift through one's will to the Huntsville Hospital Foundation provides your estate with an official income tax receipt for the full amount of the gift. This can be very beneficial because in the year of your passing, Canada Revenue Agency rules that your entire estate is considered liquidated and any tax shelters you may have such as RRSPs or RRIFs have been cashed in. Because of this, your reportable income can be high. The charitable tax credit your estate receives from your gift can offset any tax owing from capital gains (the profit from the sale of your investments or secondary properties) or the winding up of retirement funds.

After your passing, your executor should consult an accountant about how to make use of the tax credit in the most beneficial way.

Legacy or planned gifts are an important part of our philanthropic tradition. Each year, thousands of Canadians support many worthwhile causes through legacy gifts — gifts that may not be financially possible during one's lifetime. Such gifts can generate significant tax savings for your estate. They can also help Huntsville Hospital move into the future with greater opportunities and financial security.

Many people are surprised to learn that the provincial government does not provide everything the hospital needs for patient care. Perhaps best of all, then, after providing for your loved ones, a gift in your will for our hospital is a tangible, ongoing expression of your interest and commitment to support the very best health care we can provide.

It's easy to make a gift through your will and there are different types of gifts from which you may choose.

- **SPECIFIC GIFT:** The Huntsville Hospital Foundation receives a specific asset such as an amount of cash, a gift of securities, or a piece of real estate.

- **RESIDUAL GIFT:** The Foundation would receive all or a percentage of what remains in your estate after other special provisions have been fulfilled.

- **CONTINGENT GIFT:** The Foundation would receive a share of your estate after other named beneficiaries have passed.

If you are considering any type of estate gift, we would be pleased to speak with you and/or your financial advisor in confidence. If you have already left a legacy gift to the Huntsville Hospital Foundation, we encourage you to let us know. We can help you establish or confirm how you would like your gift used and offer you recognition—or not—as you wish.

Please contact Katherine Craine, Executive Director, by email at [katherine.craine@mahc.ca](mailto:katherine.craine@mahc.ca) or call her at 705-789-4756. She would be delighted to help you.



# Saving and Giving — With a Will!



**"Five minutes more and I wouldn't have been walking. Huntsville Hospital gave me my life back. I've seen the birth of my grandchildren, I'm swimming, kayaking and have many more moments to come. That's why I support the Huntsville Hospital Foundation."**  
~ Sandy Shaughnessy, recovered heart attack patient

When it comes to money, people's ideas certainly differ.

Many believe in careful spending and systematic saving. They are gratified to see their savings grow and know their loved ones will be financially protected in the future. Others feel it's wiser to enjoy their money as they go along and to keep their estates minimal. There is no right or wrong way of doing things. People do what feels best for them. Whatever your beliefs one thing is certain — having a well-thought-out will is essential to a person's long-term financial wellbeing and peace of mind.

When you pass away, everything you own — real estate, furniture, stocks, bonds, retirement funds, life insurance policies — is given a dollar figure. That figure is then added to your income in the year of death to calculate the value of your estate. Estates are often much larger than one might think. That's why having a will is so important. You have supported us so generously over the years and repeatedly shown your love of our hospital in so many different ways. Your will, therefore, is a statement of who and what is important to you now and in the future. It's a reflection of the ongoing stewardship of your resources. Through it, you may thoughtfully provide for the people you care about and invest in the causes you wish to support long into the future — including the Huntsville Hospital Foundation.

**Sometimes there is fear that a gift in a will would reduce the amount you can leave to your loved ones.**

**That does not have to happen. Naming the Huntsville Hospital Foundation in your will can provide your estate with tax savings and reduced probate fees\* that may actually increase the amount you leave to others. This is in addition to your support of both compassionate and excellent health care for our patients and their families.**

Many also believe that only those who can leave large gifts should consider a gift in their will. A gift of any amount is valued and can make a difference to patient care. For us, it's the thoughtful intention behind the gift that matters most. Huntsville District Memorial Hospital has been caring for our community for over 93 years. Everyone who leaves a gift for the hospital, regardless of amount, will ensure our effective health care and dedication to public service continues long into the future. Such an approach is not always easy to find but it's something that those we serve truly value.

Huntsville Hospital would not be what it is today without the long-standing, generous support of our donors. Whether you're a saver, a spender, or a bit of both, a will is an essential part of financial planning. Everyone who leaves a gift to the Huntsville Hospital Foundation will help ensure our close to home health care continues long into the future for those we care about the most.

\*Probate fees are the fees paid to the provincial government when a will is probated — the legal process by which a will is processed under the oversight of your executor. The amount of the fees depends on the size of your estate.

# Having a Will is Important. Here's Why.

For your loved ones, having your affairs in order is one of the greatest things you can do for them. Having an up-to-date will is the only way to ensure that your assets — your life's work — are passed on according to your wishes.

No matter what your age may be, a solid estate plan — one that includes a properly drafted will — is essential. Without a will, the courts apply provincial legislation to decide how to distribute your hard-earned assets. Your preferences therefore may not be met. This is especially true if you wish to remember people beyond your immediate family or

to support organizations that are important to you, like the Huntsville Hospital Foundation.

A good estate plan is one that disposes of your assets and minimizes both expenses and taxes at the same time. Your estate can also be set up so that money is immediately available to pay debts and other expenses. Your will ensures that assets are smoothly distributed to your beneficiaries of choice and allows you to arrange your affairs so that things are taken care of as you wish after your passing. Rather than having one appointed by the courts, you can name your own executor

(trustee) in your will — someone who acts as your personal representative, resolving all financial aspects of your estate and ensuring that your wishes are met.

**It's important to have your will prepared by a lawyer or through a trust company with a lawyer's help. You should also review your will regularly. There are only three possible beneficiaries of an estate - family and friends; charity; or taxes to the Canada Revenue Agency. The only way you can choose who benefits is by planning ahead and creating a will. The costs are minimal but the benefits are great.**

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## A Legacy of Caring *Continued from front page*

Their decision to remember Huntsville Hospital with a gift of life insurance was an easy one to make. As David states, "By paying the policy's premiums each year, you can leverage that small annual gift into a really significant future gift. We like that a lot." For the premiums they pay, they receive an annual income tax receipt that saves them enough money to significantly off set cost of their policy's premiums.

For David, "The process of arranging a gift of insurance and paying its premiums has proven to be completely painless. If everyone did something like this, we would eventually have more than enough capital to build an entirely new hospital." Vicky agrees, acknowledging that it's been a long-standing need and goal to have a new hospital facility for their community.

Today for the Mathies, life is good. They have their home and an island cottage in Georgian Bay where David "likes to putter." Building rock retaining walls

has become a family speciality! One of their children lives, with their grandchildren, close by so time spent with family is also important. They both enjoy reading, music, travelling, and their thoughtful support of Huntsville Hospital happily continues.

The Huntsville Hospital Foundation is deeply grateful to the Mathies for the years of service, financial support, and for their future legacy gift. You too may bring healing and hope to our community by remembering the Huntsville Hospital Foundation with your own legacy gift, whether a gift in your will, a gift of insurance, or an annuity. Have you already left a legacy for the hospital? If so, thank you for letting us know. We can ensure your future gift will be used exactly as you wish and offer you recognition—or not—as you wish.

Vicky, David, on behalf of the Huntsville Hospital Foundation, *thank you!*

**For further information, please contact Katherine Craine, Executive Director  
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