A life well-lived

Mac grad Leo Yasuchenko (1951-2019) is remembered by his many friends for his gentlemanly manner, his wry sense of humour, and his love of sports, science fiction, and the outdoors.

Yasuchenko attended Westdale Secondary and Hamilton Collegiate, and then graduated with a degree in chemical engineering from McMaster in 1975. While at Mac, he edited the satirical engineering newspaper, sharing an office with the editor-in-chief of The Silhouette, who happened to be Dave Thomas ’72 of Second City fame.

A systems engineer with Dow Chemical Canada and Suncor, Yasuchenko organized baseball teams and made lifelong friends as a member of the Sarnia Library Book Club, the Sarnia Computer Users Group, and the Newell Street Saturday Coffee Group.

Through his estate, he bequeathed a planned gift via his registered retirement plans to augment his past generous support of Mac’s department of chemical engineering.

Thanks to his thoughtful planning, future generations of engineers can follow in his footsteps and pursue their own paths to a life well-lived.

PLAN AHEAD for a bright future by naming McMaster University as a beneficiary to a registered retirement fund, such as an RRSP or a RRIF.

Designating McMaster as a beneficiary will reduce the tax burden on your estate, while also building your philanthropic legacy. Please turn over for more details.
HOW DO I DONATE WITH AN RRSP OR RRIF?

You designate McMaster University as either the sole beneficiary or a joint beneficiary in the plan documents of your RRSP or RRIF. To support a specific area at McMaster, you would provide McMaster with a letter of intent, which we can prepare for your signature.

A charitable tax receipt for the value of the gifted investment will be issued to your estate and can be applied toward the final two income tax returns. You may also donate from a RRIF during your lifetime. Please contact us for further details.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

• You continue to have use of the funds during life. RRSP/RRIF gift intentions are revocable and can be changed if your personal or financial circumstances change.

• RRSPs/RRIFs become fully taxable as income in the year of death (unless they are rolled over to a surviving spouse or dependent child). To offset this tax burden, your estate can claim charitable donations equal to 100 per cent of your net income.

• RRSP/RRIF donations can be combined with other forms of future giving to establish a lasting legacy for generations to come at McMaster.

• As with any charitable donation, you may designate your gift to the area that is the most meaningful for you — and you may also provide an unrestricted donation to support the university’s greatest needs.

This information is general in nature and does not constitute legal or financial advice. We encourage you to contact your financial and legal advisors before making your decision.