Memorial gifts are a special way to honor a loved one or friend who has passed away. By supporting MidAmerica Nazarene University, these gifts ensure a legacy for the deceased that extends far into the future. Any type of gift can be designated as a memorial gift.

Families who are considering memorial gifts often need time to consider how the funds received should be used. Therefore, MNU has developed three options for families to consider when determining how memorial gift will be used:

**Option 1: Current Use**

Under this option, families may designate memorial gifts for immediate use at MNU. Funds received will benefit MNU’s University Fund for general purposes or for a specific program or purpose.

When no directive is received from the family regarding how memorial gifts should be used, funds...
will automatically be applied for current use by the University.

Option 2: Pioneer Legacy Fund

Some families prefer memorial gifts to be set aside for permanent use. Typically, this is achieved by placing funds in an endowment. The Pioneer Legacy Fund — an unrestricted scholarship endowment — has been created for this purpose.

Distributions from the Pioneer Legacy Fund will be made for general scholarship support.

This option is appropriate in the following situations:

a. When families do not anticipate being able to fully fund an endowment, yet desire memorial gifts be used for scholarships on a permanent basis; or,

b. When families are interested in establishing an endowment, but are uncertain about their ability to fully fund an endowment of their own or in memory of the deceased individual.

In this instance, the Pioneer Legacy Fund can be used on a temporary basis until a final decision is made to establish a separate endowment. If a decision is made to establish and fully fund a separate endowment, funds could be transferred from the Pioneer Legacy Fund to establish the new endowment.

For obituary announcements directing memorial gifts to the Pioneer Legacy Fund, we suggest the following language, which can be tailored to your needs:

“Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Legacy Fund, c/o MNU Foundation, 2030 E. College Way, Olathe, KS 66062.”

Option 3: Existing or New Endowment

Memorial gifts may also be directed for permanent use to an existing or new endowment fund. New endowments can be named in memory of an individual or family and distributions will be made in accordance with award criteria requested by the family.

This option would be available in the following situations:

a. When families anticipate from the outset that memorial funds will be used for the establishment of a new endowment with the intent to fully fund the endowment ($20,000) within a five-year period; or,

b. When families desire for memorial gifts to be credited to an existing endowment.

For obituary announcements directing memorial gifts to a new or existing endowment, we suggest the following language, which can be tailored to your needs:

“Memorial contributions may be made to the <insert name> Fund, c/o MNU Foundation, 2030 E. College Way, Olathe, KS 66062.”

How do endowments work?

Endowments are one of the financial pillars of a university. Rather than used for immediate needs, endowed funds are invested. The earnings on these investments then provide a reliable, ongoing source of funds for scholarships, academic programs, professorships, operations and other important areas.

Gifts to the endowment are pooled and invested for long-term growth. The goal is to use enough earnings to accomplish the purpose for which the endowment was created, while retaining a portion to allow for continued growth and to help offset inflation.

For more information, please contact the Office of University Advancement:

Phone: 1-877-496-8668
Email: foundation@mnu.edu
Online: www.mnu.edu/give