

Class of 1963 50th Reunion Gift Profile



Kip and John H. "Jack" Abbott '63

When I arrived at Bowdoin as a freshman from Caribou, Maine, I had never been to the campus before. Other than Fenway Park, Brunswick was the farthest south I had ever traveled! It's amazing to think about how little I knew back then about the place that would have such a central and influential role in the rest of my life.

Bowdoin gave direction to my education and my career, provided mentors who helped me make significant decisions during and after college, and was where I met friends who remain among the most important people in my life. Every day since graduation I have been proud to be a Polar Bear. Since my very first year as an alumnus I have made it a priority to give back to the College through annual gifts to the Alumni Fund and, once it was established, to the Polar Bear Athletic Fund.

I direct my Alumni Fund gifts to a scholarship fund that was established in memory of my high school and college classmate, Rob Page. The fund provides financial aid to students from northern Maine.

Recently, Kip and I set up a charitable gift annuity at Bowdoin that will benefit Rob's scholarship fund. The gift annuity will provide tax advantages and a fixed income stream to us during our lifetimes. Additionally, we let Bowdoin know that we have included the College in our estate plan.

In all of these ways, I hope to show the College, my fraternity brothers, and my classmates just how much they mean to me. Without question, my life and career would not have been nearly as fulfilling without my time at Bowdoin.

—JACK ABBOTT '63

Jack and Kip live in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts. After a successful career in investment management that included leadership positions at Bank of Boston, Chase Manhattan, and Boston Financial Management, Jack retired in 2008. Finding that he still enjoyed the investment field, Jack established Manchester Strategic Resources, LLC, a wealth management consulting firm. Kip owns Manchester Travel Company, customizing travel plans for her many clients, as well as for herself and Jack. Jack and Kip's daughter, Kelsey, Bowdoin Class of 2000, and her husband live in Freeport, Maine.