

## Class of 1962

# 50th Reunion Gift Profile



*Neal Love*

The heart of my Bowdoin experience was the support I received from faculty and generous financial aid donors, and the freedom I was given to find my passion. Scholarship aid made it possible for me to attend the College; but the guidance, compassion and independence afforded to me by my wonderful professors helped me find my way to a successful, fulfilling career and life. Whether it was the theater and music faculty who gave me the opportunity to express myself creatively through writing, acting, directing, playing, and composing, or a chemistry professor—Dr. Kamerling—who allowed me to learn from the mistake of setting a large area of the chemistry lab on fire, Bowdoin's faculty gave me the opportunity to grow as a student and as a person.

Once I was in a position to give the same opportunity to current Bowdoin students, I jumped at the chance. In addition to supporting the Alumni Fund each year, my wife, Vickie, and I recently included a provision in our estate plan that will provide funds for student research and for financial aid, two of the College's—and our own—highest priorities. The funds from our estate will support two endowed funds: a scholarship for students involved in musical theater that I set up when my first wife passed away, and a new fund, the Cornelius and Vickie Lynn Love Student Research Fund, which will give students the opportunity to work closely with their professors and conduct original scholarly research. Our hope is that by enabling students with financial need to come to Bowdoin, and by giving them a chance to pursue new, hands-on experiences, these gifts will help current students find their own spark of interest, which ultimately will lead to a lifetime of exploring, creating, and accomplishing their goals.

—NEAL LOVE '62

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*Neal and Vickie live in Stevensville, Maryland, and travel as often as they can. After graduating from Bowdoin, Neal served as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Army Field Band from 1962 to 1965. From 1970 to 2005 he ran Wedgewood Productions Inc., the company he founded, which manages all aspects of conventions and meetings for numerous domestic and international corporations and associations. Neal also has written, directed, and produced musical theater productions in several states and on Broadway. Next up for Neal and Vickie is a forty-day adventure to South America and Africa.*