

Class of 1960 50th Reunion



Bob and Joyce Spencer

With my 50th reunion approaching, my wife, Joyce, and I wanted to make a meaningful gift to Bowdoin. We decided to establish the Spencer Family Scholarship Fund in memory of our son, Carson J. Spencer '92, who died in 2004. The fund will support scholarships to Bowdoin undergraduates, with preference given to children of alumni who reside in Maine.

Carson placed significant value on the experiences he had in school, and he went on to become a very successful businessperson. He had talked about creating scholarships to help others earn a college education, and this gift is one of the ways we are honoring his memory.

We made the gift to Bowdoin through a deferred charitable gift annuity, which we chose for its tax and income benefits. Our gift will provide income for us as another income source phases out, and it will ultimately support students in need. The gift annuity was the right choice for us, and we chose to give preference to those in Maine to support Bowdoin in maintaining its commitment to local students. The College is a wonderful steward of its endowment, and we are confident that our gift will continue to grow and help students for many generations.

After majoring in sociology at Bowdoin, I joined the Group Insurance Division of Aetna Life Insurance. In 1968 I became general partner focusing on employee benefits for Goodwin, Loomis & Britton, Inc., and eventually became president of the company. I retired in 1994 but continued to work in executive recruiting. Joyce earned her degree at Mount Holyoke in 1960 and worked for many years as a software engineer.

Joyce and I have now both fully retired, and in 2001 we moved to Colorado to be near our children and grandchildren. Our daughter, Sally '89, earned her Psy.D. at the University of Denver and is a faculty member at Regis University. Joyce and I are both avid skiers and we love the outdoors, and I play senior men's ice hockey.

Over the years, I have served as class agent for Bowdoin as well as president of the Bowdoin Club of Connecticut, chair of the Hartford area in the 175th campaign, and BASIC volunteer. I am currently a member of the Alumni Council.

I have enjoyed these years of giving back to Bowdoin, and hope to see many of you in 2010.

Bob Spencer '60