



# Planned Giving

## ***M. Wayne and Carolyn J. Davidson Establish Law Scholarship***

M. Wayne Davidson grew up in Emporia, Kan., and received his bachelor of science degree from Emporia State University in 1954. He graduated from Washburn University School of Law in 1960.

During law school, Davidson worked for Earl Hatcher '23, then in private practice and writing a hornbook on the topic of damages. While Hatcher wrote the manuscript, Davidson did the basic research. Davidson's respect for Hatcher was, and still is, immense and a highlight of his life. As fate would have it, shortly before they finished the book, Melvin Belli, noted trial attorney, produced a three volume treatise on damages, and Hatcher's book was never published.

After graduation Davidson worked three years with the Topeka firm of Schroeder, Heeney & Groff. He then joined J. Harlan Stamper '60, and other members of a Kansas City, Mo. firm. In 1968, Davidson established his own firm, which today is Davidson Deckert & Glassman, P.C.. Davidson developed close relationships with his clients, which have endured to this day, such as serving for nearly 40 years as general counsel and as a member of the board of directors of Cobalt Boats of Neodesha, Kan., one of the premier boat builders in the United States.

In 2001, Davidson's wife Carolyn retired as administrative vice president of a large trucking company and took over the administrative work of his law firm. Because most of Davidson's clients are close friends, Wayne and Carolyn work as

a team, giving their clients prompt and quality legal services.

The Davidson's have wonderful sentiments for Washburn Law in that it provided Wayne's legal education which improved their lifestyle. Reflecting back on his life, Davidson feels very indebted to Washburn Law for giving him the opportunity to receive a quality legal education at a very reasonable cost; to associate and work with great law professors, practicing lawyers and jurists; to be able to attend classes in the morning, providing time for his full-time afternoon job, plus two part-time jobs; and to graduate debt-free.

Davidson said, "We decided it was time to share some of our good fortune with Washburn Law. We want to help encourage future law students to come to Washburn Law by providing a scholarship in our names. The School of Law made a real difference in our lives and we want to be a small part in providing the same opportunity for future law students".

Alumni and friends interested in joining the Davidson's in building the future of Washburn University School of Law through trusts, estates, and other planned gifts are encouraged to contact:

Martin Ahrens  
Advancement & Planned Giving Officer  
Washburn University School of Law  
1700 College  
Topeka, KS 66621  
785-670-2781

