



LEGACY

FALL 2021



A FINANCIAL AND CHARITABLE PLANNING GUIDE FROM THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY FOUNDATION

She Worked the Plan

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When Robin Wright arrived at the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1980, she knew motivation and planning would lead to success. “The discipline and values instilled at the Academy inspired me all through my time there, in the Air Force and in private industry,” states Wright. “Even my plan to concentrate on engineering in light of not being qualified to pursue a rated Air Force career was aided by the learned trait to focus and compartmentalize.”

Motivated by the USAFA values of integrity, service and excellence, Wright leaned on those to find success in all areas of life. “I was always driven by leaving personal and professional endeavors better than I found them,” she says. At USAFA, Wright was selected to lead her cadet squadron, served as a deputy group commander, and was a four-year member of the women’s rugby team. She earned a Guggenheim Fellowship, going to Columbia University in New York after her 1984 graduation.

Armed with an M.S. in engineering, she secured an assignment to Strategic Air Command headquarters, where one of her assignments was to work on the survivability of combat aircraft. Following a stint at Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs, Wright separated and embarked on a 27-year career with Ford Motor Company.

“I landed a dream job in the automotive industry and immediately began to make my mark while also working hard toward my end goal,” Wright says. “I strove to accumulate the wisdom and means in order to pursue passions important to me.” At Ford she rose to be an engineering director with contributions on top-selling and leading-edge automotive platforms and powertrains. “It was a very rewarding career in an industry critical to the U.S. economy, and I owe a great deal of gratitude for how the Academy prepared me.”

Wright has expressed her appreciation by regularly donating to USAFA, and she recently documented a legacy provision in her will that will come to the Air Force Academy Foundation.

“I’m pleased to arrange this future support and hope other graduates will consider doing so,” Wright says. She is a Sabre Society donor and a member of the Polaris Society in recognition of her philanthropy.

Still living in the Detroit area, Wright’s passion is now animal welfare. She is the president of the board for the Michigan Animal Rescue League and oversaw the planning and construction of a new facility for the organization. “I have been so fortunate, and I am so grateful to be in a position to give back,” she says.





THE PERFECT TIME TO PLAN

There is no better time than now to think about your future. As you do, reflect on all you have done with your life. You are important to your family, your friends and to the causes you give to and support.

Plan your future to honor your past. Fortunately, it is fairly easy and overwhelmingly rewarding. The results of not having a plan can be problematic for you, your family and heirs. Yet the peace of mind that comes from having one is priceless.

With proper planning (even with just a basic plan), you can provide for your family, friends and the causes important to you. If you don't have a will or estate plan, or if it needs revising, now is the perfect time to get it done. When you do:

- ▶ You preserve and emphasize your priorities.
- ▶ You won't leave your values and valuables to be interpreted and decided by a judge you do not know in a court you will never see.
- ▶ Your family benefits from planning by

avoiding unnecessary taxes. Mapping out a plan for your future is easier than you might think.

Here is a simple step-by-step process to building your legacy.

Make a list of what is important to you

The first step to developing the right plan is to stay committed to the process. It may take a month or more to complete your plan, but in the end, the security that you can provide your family will be worth the effort.

Ask for a copy of our Estate Planning Guide

We have a free estate planning guide to give you. It will help you gather important information about your family and your assets and assist you in developing your goals to complete a plan that is right for you and your family. Request a copy at legacy.usafa.org.

Prepare and finalize your plan

Meet with an estate planning attorney and share your information from the guide, and the attorney can help you finalize your plan.



REDUCE YOUR HIGH TAXES

If higher taxes are on the horizon, don't worry. We have what you need to reduce taxes and keep your life and your plans on track. We can help you lower taxes while often increasing your liquidity.

New Use for Old Stock

If you have stock or other appreciated assets, transfer the stock to a charity. When you do, you receive an income tax deduction for the present value but pay no capital gains tax.

Whether it is a charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust or other vehicle, we can help you find ways to use your assets to help you:

- ▶ *Receive the best income tax deduction possible.*
- ▶ *Possibly create new tax-advantaged payments.*
- ▶ *Work with your attorney and advisor so you receive all the benefits you are entitled to.*

IRA Rollover

If you are 70 and 1/2 or above, you can direct your IRA administrator to make a distribution directly to charity. If you are over 72, this may fulfill your required minimum distribution. You won't receive an income tax deduction, but you won't have to pay tax on the distribution. Many people are unaware of all the possibilities that may help reduce your higher taxes. Best of all, when you do, your smart planning also becomes smart giving. You help others while helping yourself.

| STRATEGIC TAX IDEA | INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR YOU | PROVIDES PAYMENTS TO YOU | EXTRA BENEFIT |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Charitable Gift Annuity | ✓ | ✓ | Possible tax-free payments |
| Charitable Remainder Unitrust | ✓ | ✓ | Payments for life |
| Gift of Stock | ✓ | | Avoid capital gains tax |
| IRA Charitable Rollover | ✓ | | May fulfill your RMD |



Options for Year-End Giving



GIFT OF YOUR ASSETS

▶ Do you have CDs, stocks or bonds that are producing little or no return? Why not make a gift of these low-performing assets to the Air Force Academy Foundation, and receive a charitable deduction? You can also give your real estate, art or other property and benefit from a deduction.



GIFT OF YOUR PROPERTY FOR INCOME

▶ If you are looking for income in the future, why not make a gift of property to fund a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust? Your property can be sold tax-free, and you may receive income for the rest of your life. With a charitable gift annuity, this income is fixed so there is the possibility that some of your payment will be tax-free.



FUTURE PROPERTY GIFT

▶ Did you know there are gifts everyone can make to benefit from charitable giving? If you don't want to give your stock or real estate today, you can still enjoy your property during your lifetime while making a gift to the Air Force Academy Foundation through your will or trust. A bequest of your property will provide your estate with an estate tax charitable deduction, which means the money saved can go to your loved ones.



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GET A FREE WILLS GUIDE!

Return the enclosed card or visit legacy.usafa.org/willsguide to request a FREE estate planning guide and receive more information about estate planning and supporting the Air Force Academy through a legacy gift.

