

LEGACY

SPRING 2020



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

Seeing His Way to Service

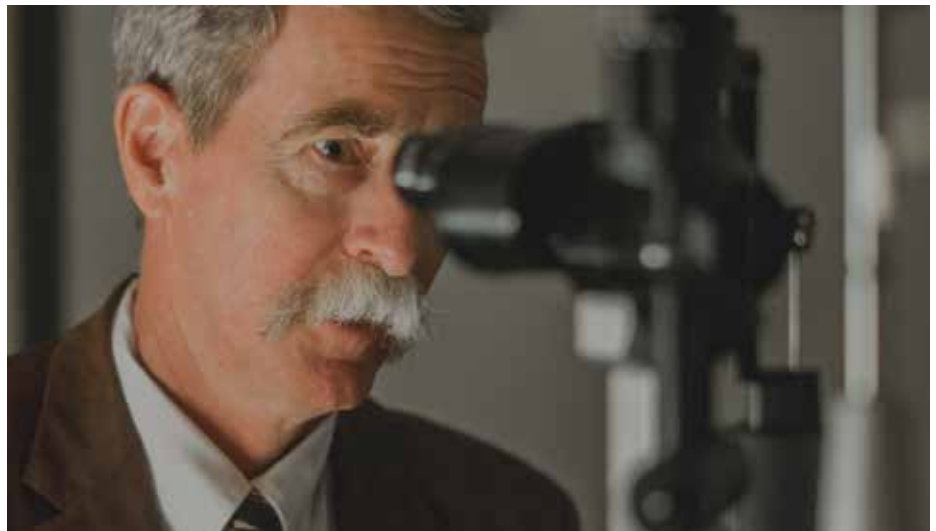
"I feel an obligation to give back to the Academy."

Always driven to serve, Bill Clifford graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1976 and served as an F-15 Eagle pilot in Germany.

Clifford followed his ambition and his talents to USC Medical School, graduating with an MD, specializing in ophthalmology. He had the unique opportunity to serve at the King Khaled Eye Specialist Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, before returning to the United States to use his skills to treat underserved patients in Western Kansas.

Clifford and his wife, Jean, a retired Air Force JAG officer, are parents of six children, five adopted, but both have found time to serve on school boards, and he spent 13 years as a county commissioner.

"I have also been privileged to be a surgical attending at the VA Hospital in Oklahoma City, and to participate in medical missions on every continent except Antarctica," he said.



Clifford served as the state president for the Kansas Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons and is currently running for election to serve Western Kansas in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 2018 he and his associates opened a new multi-million dollar state-of-the-art eye clinic and surgical center in Garden City.

Through it all, Clifford never forgets the impact the Air Force Academy had on his life. "I feel

an obligation to give back to the Academy," he said. "My participation to date has been primarily financial, but I have also been willing to be an AOG board candidate and been involved with my class reunions."

The Cliffords support Academy programs, are recognized donors of the Polaris Society and Sabre Society, and have arranged a future legacy gift to the support the Academy as well.

For more information on how you can arrange for a future legacy gift to help the Academy and qualify for Polaris Society recognition, contact the Office of Gift Planning at 719-472-2059 or legacy@afacademyfoundation.org.

▶ In the current environment when we all are impacted by COVID-19, our first concern is for your good health and safety. We are aware the pandemic may affect levels of current or future commitments to help the Academy. Please know that we are available to speak with you about questions you may have.

Estate Planning in the Digital Age

What would you do in this situation? You attempt to log on to your computer, only to find you no longer know your log-in or password. You're locked out of your emails, bank and investment accounts, and all your favorite web sites. Family photos accumulated for years are inaccessible. No access to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or your other social media accounts. You turn to your smart phone, but you don't recall your password so you can't access your contacts or use any of the apps. While this might sound like a bad dream, it is the situation the executor of your estate will encounter if you have made no provisions for access to your digital life upon your passing.

Written documents such as a will, trust, power of attorney, and healthcare directives continue to be the foundation for an estate plan and should be kept in a secure location available to those who will need them at the appropriate time. However, in this digital age, no estate plan is complete without providing a means of access to your digital accounts for either trusted family members or the person you named in your will to administer your estate. Here are several steps so that your digital assets can be accessed upon your passing.

List your digital accounts – Make a list of all your digital accounts with log-ins and passwords, including passwords to unlock your electronic devices. Include bank and financial accounts, bills that are paid automatically, credit card accounts, medical websites, accounts that you use for on-line shopping, and social media accounts. Keep this list in a secure place such as a home safe or bank safe deposit box accessible to either a close loved one or your professional advisor. While some advise against such written lists, it can speed the access that executors will need to gain control over your digital financial life.

Security questions – When executors access a website, they may be asked for the security questions you established. Provide a list of these questions and responses should they be needed.

Password manager – Consider using a password manager that can store all of your account log-ins and passwords in a highly secure manner. Programs such as 1Password, LastPass, and



Keepass – there are others – allow you to access your websites with one master password. Personal information such as funeral instructions and the location of important documents can also be stored. Other family members can have access to your information if they also participate in the program and you authorize their access.

Social media accounts – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media accounts may play a significant role in how you connect with others digitally. Leave easily accessible instructions for how you wish such accounts to be managed after your passing. Should funeral arrangements be announced? Should the accounts be maintained or shut down? Also, individual social media providers may have policies once an account owner has passed away that may limit how the account is managed.

Provision in your will or trust – Put a provision in your will or trust authorizing your executor to have access to your digital accounts. While this may not be controlling depending on the digital account provider, it is better to have such a provision than not. Do not list account information in a will as, once entered into probate, the will is a public document.

Experienced estate planning professionals are attuned to the importance of addressing digital accounts as part of an estate plan. Inquire about laws and provider policies that may inhibit your executor's ability to access your digital accounts. In this digital age, no estate plan is complete without addressing your digital life.

MAKE SURE YOUR WISHES ARE FOLLOWED

"WE WILL NOT LIE, STEAL, OR CHEAT, NOR TOLERATE AMONG US ANYONE WHO DOES."

We are told we need a will to ensure that our assets end up with those we want to have them. However, even with a will, it's entirely possible that a substantial portion of your estate could end up with unintended – and unwanted – beneficiaries. Understanding how your assets will be distributed at end of life can help ensure that your assets go to those you want to have them.

- ▶ If you pass away without a will, known as "intestacy," the state of your final residence will have statutes governing who will receive your assets not distributed by other documents. Typically, those laws distribute assets to a spouse and/or children. If you have a significant other, they likely will not receive any portion of your intestate estate.
 - ▶ If you have a will, the will controls the distribution of those assets owned in your name alone and not distributed by other documents. These assets will go through probate, a court proceeding overseeing the distribution of assets in your estate to beneficiaries named by you in your will. However, if you own your home and bank accounts jointly with another, those assets will be completely owned by the surviving joint owner without regard to the beneficiaries in your will.
 - ▶ If you have established a revocable living trust during your lifetime, upon your passing the beneficiaries you named in the trust agreement will receive your assets, but only those assets that have been transferred into the trust. It's possible that when the revocable living trust was established some of your assets were never retitled as being owned by the trust. Anything not owned by the trust will be distributed by your will, or by intestacy if you have no will.
 - ▶ The largest amount of investment assets in your estate may be held in your retirement accounts, such as an IRA, 401(k) or 403(b). The distribution of these accounts is controlled by beneficiary designations, forms you may have completed many years ago when you first started a job.
 - ▶ Beneficiary designation forms also control the distribution of proceeds from life insurance policies. It is essential that you review beneficiary designation forms no less than every three years, or when a lifecycle event occurs such as marriage, divorce, death, or birth of a child or grandchild. You may find that the beneficiary you designated many years ago is no longer a part of your life and someone you do not wish to receive any of your estate.
- It's important to have a will. But the will alone is likely insufficient to distribute all of your estate. A comprehensive review of your assets and the documents that control the distribution of those assets, possibly guided by an estate planning professional, can ensure that a lifetime of accumulated assets end up with those you wish to benefit.

Gift Planning FAQs Regarding Name Change

On January 1, 2020, the USAFA Endowment became the Air Force Academy Foundation. The following answers to frequently asked questions discuss impacts to future legacy gifts.

What is the Air Force Academy Foundation?

The Air Force Academy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization solely dedicated to providing private, transformative philanthropic support to the United States Air Force Academy. By working closely with graduates, families and friends of the Academy to support initiatives that are not otherwise supported through government funding, the Foundation helps donors create impactful, real-world learning opportunities for cadets. More information about the Air Force Academy Foundation is available at afacademyfoundation.org

What happens to the USAFA Endowment?

Despite the name change to Air Force Academy Foundation, we are the same legal entity as

USAFA Endowment, Inc., using the same Employer Identification Number (26-0537053); thus, we are able to receive future gifts in the name of Air Force Academy Foundation or USAFA Endowment, Inc.

I/we have named the USAFA Endowment as a future charitable beneficiary – do we need to change our documents?

It is not necessary to immediately change your documents that currently name the USAFA Endowment, particularly for charitable bequests in your will/trust legal documents. When you next review and update your estate plans, then you can incorporate our new name. If you have named us as a remainder beneficiary of an account such as brokerage, savings, retirement, insurance, often your plan's administrator enables changes to be made online.

What are the details of naming the Air Force Academy Foundation as a recipient?

Use the following information:

Legal name: Air Force Academy Foundation

Address: 3116 Academy Dr.

USAF Academy, CO 80840-4475

Federal ID: 26-0537053

The Air Force Academy Foundation launches the Polaris Legacy Challenge

Remembering the Air Force Academy with a future legacy commitment has become even more attractive in 2020 with the Air Force Academy Foundation's Polaris Legacy Challenge.

For every new documented planned gift in 2020, a \$1,000 donation will be made to the Air Force Academy Fund in the donor's name.

A gift to the unrestricted Air Force Academy Fund enables the superintendent to respond quickly to the changing needs of the Academy, maximizing the impact

on cadet training. It's a popular fund for donors who want to support Academy and cadet programs. New legacy donors will be honored as Sabre Society donors, a recognition accorded to those who give at least \$1,000 annually to the Air Force Academy Fund. If the donor is already a Sabre Society donor, the challenge match will be added to the donor's gift and recognition.

Donors who establish a documented legacy gift also become members of the Polaris Society in recognition of their future gift to the Academy.

The Polaris Legacy Challenge provides a unique way to encourage donors to establish a legacy gift with the Air Force Academy Foundation in 2020 and have an immediate impact on the Academy at the same time.



Office of Gift Planning
3116 Academy Drive
USAF Academy, CO 80840

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legacy@afacademyfoundation.org

GET A FREE WILLS GUIDE!

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

