FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO LIFE

“I was gravely ill for months and in the hospital for almost three years—coming that close to death has a way of giving you a new appreciation for life,” said Wayne Cockfield.

In 1969, Wayne was leading his men from a river patrol in Vietnam when he was critically wounded. Wayne shared, “All I could do was wait for the soldier I was expecting to come out of the bushes to kill me. That experience really shaped the way I feel about pro-life issues.” Thankfully, Wayne was rescued that day and returned to the States to face a lengthy medical battle.

Intrinsic value of life

Although he would lose both legs to infection during his recovery, Wayne does not view himself as disabled. He sees himself as a Christian Marine Corps sergeant who has lobbied in Washington, represented non-governmental organizations at the United Nations and is a member of the National Right to Life board of directors. These accomplishments fuel his brave fight for his belief in the intrinsic value of life from conception until natural death.

Wayne started working with South Carolina Citizens for Life in the 80s. Later, he attended his first National Right to Life seminar, where he was asked to participate in one of our videos and has been working with us in many capacities ever since.

Despite 35 operations, Wayne offers hopeful advice to others, “be true to what is right, do not give up, and fight for the innocent members of our human family.”

Join the fight

As the treasurer and vice president for medical ethics for National Right to Life as well as a frequent speaker, Wayne often talks about the intrinsic value of life for unborn children as well as the medically vulnerable.

Wayne puts his beliefs into action, “I support National Right to Life because our laws save lives. It is a privilege to fight for the right to life, and I hope others will join whether through voting pro-life, supporting a local organization or including National Right to Life in their charitable giving plans.”

Providing for Loved Ones

Using Your IRA To Support National Right to Life
PROVIDING FOR LOVED ONES

Through your estate plans, you can help plan for the future well-being of your family and others you care about. Your will or living trust can provide for a spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, siblings and friends. It can also include gifts to National Right to Life.

Very few people will be subject to federal estate taxes, and because of this, many are reconsidering how to leave their assets to those they care about. After first providing for loved ones, here are some ideas for including National Right to Life in your will or living trust:

You can make a gift in your will or trust from what is left after gifts to others have been fulfilled. Making charitable gifts from this amount, which is known as the “residue” of one’s estate, does not affect your family’s future security. You may provide that all, a specific amount, or a percentage of the remainder of your estate, becomes a gift to National Right to Life after other specific bequests have been fulfilled.

Though there are many ways to give through your will or trust, a gift of a fixed dollar amount or specific property is the simplest. Cash, securities, real estate and personal property can all be given through a will or trust.

To be sure your charitable gifts remain in proportion to other bequests, you may decide to designate that a specific percentage of your estate be given.

You can arrange any of these gifts in memory or in honor of someone special, such as a spouse, family member or other loved one. And remember that you can add charitable gifts to your existing plans through a “codicil” or amendment.

For more information or if we can answer any questions about the charitable aspects of your plans, confidentially and with no obligation, please contact our Development Office at (202) 626-8813 or development@nrlc.org.

MINISTRY UPDATE

The right-to-life movement faces extraordinary challenges in 2021: an administration determined to enshrine abortion-until-birth, paid for with taxpayer dollars as the law of the land; a Pelosi-Schumer pro-abortion Congress prepared to implement that extreme agenda; and a mainstream media apparatus ready to help them every step of the way.

National Right to Life has been working since January to activate and mobilize our nationwide network of grassroots activists to defend pro-life policies and thwart pro-abortion proposals.

Chief among the pro-abortion goals: eliminating the Hyde Amendment once and for all. This annual rider to the federal budget has stopped tax dollars from paying for abortion since the late Congressman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) introduced it more than 40 years ago. It’s estimated that the Hyde Amendment has saved more than two million lives from abortion. But pro-abortion Democrats want it gone.

We’re gathering signatures on petitions urging Congress to save the Hyde Amendment. Our lobbying team has briefed members of Congress and their key staff on the history and importance of the Hyde Amendment so that they can defend the pro-abortion attack on the floor of the U.S. House and U.S. Senate.

And we’ve activated our legislative alert network through our 50 state affiliates and more than 3,000 local chapters to generate calls and emails to members of Congress in support of the Hyde Amendment.

We’ve faced adversity before, and this time is no different. National Right to Life, which Congressman Hyde called “the flagship of the pro-life movement,” is leading the fight to protect God’s most defenseless children.
USING YOUR IRA TO SUPPORT NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE

It is a good idea to review your estate plans periodically to evaluate important financial decisions, such as the charitable gifts you want to make in 2021.

Make a meaningful gift

If you are age 70½ or older, you can make charitable gifts directly from individual retirement accounts (IRAs) using funds that might otherwise be taxed when withdrawn (up to a total of $100,000 per individual per year; $200,000 per couple).*

Because most funds withdrawn from IRAs are considered to be income, your total taxable income is increased, pushing you into a higher tax bracket. Distributions directly to charity from your IRA will not, however, be included in your taxable income whether or not you normally itemize your charitable gifts and other deductible expenses.

Such gifts can also count toward any annual required minimum distribution (which now begins at age 72 for those turning 70½ in 2021).

Here are some advantages to giving to National Right to Life through your IRA:

- You do not owe taxes on withdrawal, while the amounts given still count toward any required minimum distribution amount.
- Some taxpayers are subject to limits on the amount of charitable gifts they can deduct.
- These limitations do not apply to direct IRA transfer gifts called qualified charitable distributions (QCDs).
- You won’t increase your adjusted gross income and possibly subject your other income to higher levels of taxation.
- You may avoid income taxes due in the future by naming National Right to Life as a beneficiary of your IRA, just as you might name a beneficiary in your will or trust.

It’s not too early

If you are interested in making an IRA gift to National Right to Life this year, ask your IRA custodian for a form to arrange for a QCD. Or for more information, please contact our Development Office at (202) 626-8813 or development@nrlc.org.

*If you are still making deductible IRA contributions and making a qualified charitable distribution, check with your advisors for the tax treatment.
ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

The goal of estate planning is to outline your wishes about your property and how you would like to distribute it in the future. Are you certain that your plans are up to date? Take this quiz to find out.

1. Do you have a will or living trust to direct the distribution of your property? Y ❑ N ❑
2. Is the makeup of your family the same as when you last reviewed your plans? Y ❑ N ❑
3. Do you live in the same state as when you last updated your will and/or other plans? Y ❑ N ❑
4. Has the value of your assets remained the same since you last reviewed your plans? Y ❑ N ❑
5. Are all the people and charitable organizations important to you mentioned in your plans? Y ❑ N ❑
6. Have you given appropriate powers of attorney to someone you trust to allow them to act for you, should it become necessary? Y ❑ N ❑
7. Is the person you have named to settle your affairs still able and willing to serve? Y ❑ N ❑
8. Are your insurance and/or retirement plan beneficiary designations up to date? Y ❑ N ❑
9. Have you made provisions for what will happen to your digital assets? (e.g., photos, emails, music or e-books stored electronically) Y ❑ N ❑
10. Have you discussed your estate plans with your loved ones? Y ❑ N ❑

Your score

If you answered NO to one or more of these questions, you may need to review your long-range plans. Your professional advisors can offer advice and help with any updates you might need.

SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

If you are considering a bequest to National Right to Life, the following language can be shared with your legal advisor for inclusion in your estate planning documents: “After fulfilling all other specific provisions, I give, devise and bequeath ______% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate (or $_______ if a specific amount) to National Right to Life, currently having offices at 1446 Duke Street, in Alexandria, VA 22314.” Please contact us for more information and to discuss how you would like your bequest used.

Carol Tobias
President
National Right to Life
Development Office
1446 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(202) 626-8813
development@nrlc.org

The purpose of this publication is solely educational, namely to provide general gift, estate, financial planning and related information. It is not intended as legal, accounting or other professional advice, and you should not rely on it as such. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other implications, the services of appropriate and qualified advisors should be obtained. Consult an attorney for advice if your plans require revision of a will or other legal document. Consult a tax and/or accounting specialist for advice regarding tax and accounting related matters. © Copyright 2021 by Sharpe Group. All Rights Reserved. NNNPDF-21