Profile: Bill & Florence Roth

Bill grew up in South St. Louis in the Tower Grove neighborhood. He was not from a wealthy family. In fact, neither of his parents owned a car or learned to drive. His parents didn't purchase a house until later in life because they were concerned about going into debt and handling all the paperwork involved. Bill loved to ride his bike. He has on display in his home a picture of himself competing in a bike race – biking being one of his favorite sports.

Years later, when Bill was trying to decide upon a career, his mother suggested that he enroll in Ranken, so Bill rode over to the campus and signed up. His parents paid his $45 per year tuition. Bill got a job in the local bike shop, and also polished cars part-time so he could repay his parents.

“Ranken gave me a chance for an education and a job, and with this gift, we want to help some young people do the same.”

Bill took an immediate liking to Ranken. He loved working with his hands, and he decided to go into machining. He said that Mr. Weingardner was his favorite instructor. "He was a nice man but no pushover. He inspected every job. He admired my work since it was always square and even. I learned a lot at Ranken, since the students did all of the work."

Bill graduated from the Machine Shop (now known as Precision Machining Technology) in 1936. He had a long career as a die maker and worked in various shops throughout St. Louis. He started his career at Atlas Tool which, he explained, was good luck because the shop made 50 mm shells for the war effort. As a result, he was spared from having to go to fight in World War II. He also worked for General Metals and Marquette Tool, the latter being where he spent the majority of his career. "Once they knew I went to Ranken, they would hire me just like that."

While working at Marquette he designed a fixture for milling threads which markedly improved the quality and kept the threads from stripping. He was proud of the design though he says “it didn't earn me any more money, or keep me from being laid off, but that's just the nature of the business.”

Soon Bill met Florence, who also grew up in South St. Louis, and they were married in 1939. They raised six children: Janet, Marilyn, Karen, Lee, Tom and Bob. Janet and Karen are deceased. "We are proud of our children and felt fortunate to be able to raise six kids."

Bill and Florence attended the Spring Gift Annuity Seminar at Ranken, where Bill expressed appreciation for the education and training he received at Ranken. "I always thought that I owed continued on page 2
Welcome new members!

The Ranken Legacy Society

Throughout its history, Ranken Technical College has benefited from the foresight and generosity of individuals who have remembered the school in their estate plans.

The Legacy Society recognizes alumni, friends and benefactors who have made a provision in their estate to support Ranken and its mission.

The Legacy Society is pleased to welcome our newest members:

Steve & Laurie Swenson
Tim & Sally Snavely
Bill & Ruby Wagner, CRP '36.

If you would like to know more about how you can leave a legacy for future Ranken students, please contact Tony Pisciotta, the director of planned giving, at (314) 286-3621, or by email at avpisciotta@ranken.edu

Current Legacy Society Membership
from inception through December 2005

William Baiotto ('48)
Howard & Judi Bolton
Lynn & Ruth Burgess ('58)
Dennis & Mary Donnelly, Trustee
Ben Ernst, President
Jim Faughn, VP for Institutional Advancement
William Fennewald ('65)
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Gregery, VP for Education
Ken A. Meyer, Director of Annual Giving
Pete Murtaugh, VP for Finance
Eric & Barb Nelson ('57)
Carol M. Paule
Anthony Pisciotta, Director of Planned Giving
Vernon D. Schaefer Jr. ('67+)
Charles Skaer, Director of Grants
Paul Sodemann Trust+
Tim & Sally Snavely
Steve & Laurie Swenson
David Ranken, Jr.+
Elsie J. St. Cyr
Ralph Streiff, Trustee
Joseph E. Vollmar, Jr., Trustee
Bill & Ruby Wagner, ('36)
Russell Webbink ('48)
Tim & Carmen Willard, VP for Development
+ Deceased

Bill & Florence Roth
continued from page 1

the school something. I got a great education and was always able to work. We attended the spring seminar because we weren't sure if we wanted to purchase a gift annuity or just make an outright gift. We decided to make an outright gift since we don't need the income from the annuity and there was an immediate benefit to the College."

Bill retired in 1981 but he keeps busy working around the house and helping other people out with their projects. "I was always a worker even while I was in school. Ranken gave me a chance for an education and a job, and with this gift, we want to help some young people do the same."
Income for Life: Gift Annuities

Ranken Technical College is pleased to offer Charitable Gift Annuities to alumni, Trustees and other individuals. Gift annuities are a great way to support the College and also receive guaranteed income for life.

Consider the benefits:

» Fixed income for life
» Charitable Tax Deduction
» Tax Free Income
» Single Life, Two Life or Deferred
» Support Ranken's Educational Mission
» Competitive Rates

Retirement Assets: Retirement assets offer a simple and tax-wise way of making a deferred gift to Ranken and it will cost you nothing. If you have a qualified, tax-favored retirement account such as an IRA, 401 k or 403 b, you may wish to consider using these funds to make a deferred gift because they offer several advantages.

Tax savings: you can avoid estate AND income taxes by donating all or a portion of your retirement assets to Ranken.

Security: you can stipulate that only the remaining assets go to Ranken after your family has been taken care of, or if you prefer, you can direct specific amounts be given to your spouse and children with the balance going to Ranken.

Flexibility: you can choose to include as many charitable organizations as you wish; there is no limit on the number of charities you can support.

Simplicity: you can request a form from your retirement plan administrator and simply add or change the beneficiaries.

Many people are unaware that their tax-favored retirement assets are likely to be taxed twice upon their death. Tax savings alone make these accounts an excellent choice when deciding what method to use when making a deferred gift.

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*Ranken uses rates set by the Council on Gift Annuities. Rates are subject to change. For a free, personalized quote, please contact the planned giving office at (314) 286-3621.
Mark Your Calendar!

Spring Estate-Planning Seminar
Thursday, May 25, 2006
12:00 p.m.
Ranken Technical College

To RSVP, please contact:
Pat Harting
Ranken Development Office
(314) 286-3674

For more information about Ranken Technical College, please visit us at www.ranken.edu