Dear Friends,

As members of the R.B. Stewart Society, you have already figured out that estate planning is for everyone, regardless of age or assets.

Preparing your asset succession plan is not an exercise in contemplating your passing, but in protecting the people and causes you care most about — no matter what unexpected turn your life may take. Your plan gives you peace of mind in knowing that you have taken some of the mystery out of “what comes next.” Quite simply, careful estate planning is one of the most thoughtful things you can do for your loved ones.

We are all in different stages in life, which means we are likely in different stages of preparation. Some of you are taking your first steps toward securing your loved ones’ futures. You have determined the beneficiaries of your life insurance and retirement plans, and may have taken steps to draft your will. At the other end of the spectrum, some of you have mapped out your small-business succession plan, prepared trust documents, and are reviewing your well-laid plans from time to time to make sure that nothing significant has changed. Whatever stage you are in, one part of our careful plans we sometimes neglect is clear communication with loved ones about what arrangements we have made.

Every family is different, and only you know for certain what level of sharing will allow you to maintain family harmony. Reading your will aloud during Thanksgiving dinner is probably the best approach for most folks, but it may be appropriate to get your loved ones involved in the estate planning process at some point.

Allowing them to attend meetings or at least walking them through your estate plans once they have been implemented gives those closest to you the opportunity to ask questions, to discuss with you why you have made certain decisions, and to partner with you in making sure that your wishes are carried out with full understanding of your intent.

Your friends in the Office of Planned Giving would like to do our part in helping you with your estate planning. We would like your gift to achieve.

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Perseverance, initiative and passion remain a part of Harold “Tony” Jacklin Jr.

His impressive and extensive work as an engineer has taken him around the world and allowed him the privilege of meeting and working with political powers, leaders of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, and chief engineers and executives of some of the largest companies on the planet.

“Everything I have done was marred when I accidentally backed into an elevator that wasn’t there, fell 30 feet, landing on the bumper spring and suffering a concussion that put me out of school for two years;” he recalls.

Even though that injury would be a painful reminder for the rest of his life, it didn’t stop Jacklin from achieving his goals.
After graduating from Purdue, Jacklin accepted a position as an engineer in the diesel engine section of the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Ships. Because of the concussion he suffered, Jacklin couldn't be accepted into the armed services. Instead, he spent his time during World War II improving engines and amphibious vehicles.

Since then, he has designed and developed products for the U.S. military and industry at Jared Industries, was director of marketing for Continental Motors Corp. and Continental Aviation and Engineering Co., and served as deputy director of the Motor Vehicle Safety Performance Service.

Jacklin was involved in technical and supportive organizations including the Navy League, the Air Force Association and the Society of Naval Engineers.

“Giving back to Purdue gives opportunity to others for generations to come for a good education at a premium university,” Jacklin says.