

men and women for others

Don and Mary Jo (DeWalt) Layden are part of the Marquette continuum that makes our alumni family very special. Both are undergrad alumni and Don also graduated from Law School in 1982. Together, they have established a \$125,000 combined scholarship, shared equally between the Law School and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The *Mary Jo DeWalt and Donald W. Layden, Jr. Endowed Arts & Sciences Scholarship Fund* and the *Mary Jo DeWalt and Donald W. Layden, Jr. Endowed Law Scholarship Fund* will provide unrestricted funds to be used at the deans' discretion for scholarships. "We want the scholarships to be able to attract and retain good students," said Don. "Sometimes the school needs flexibility to do that," he explained. When Don was in law school, he received scholarships that were eliminated his senior year after he and Mary Jo were married. When he approached Bob Boden, who was dean at that time, he had the discretion to change the situation, providing Don with the means to continue his education. "I have a lot of respect for the dean and the administrators and their capacity to make those kinds of decisions," said Don, "and I want them to be able to keep doing that."

Living their faith

Don feels very strongly about a Marquette education, especially with regard to the Law School. "Marquette reinforced for me the importance of being a person for others, to commit to a life of service and leadership in the community." Both he and Mary Jo are very committed to providing leadership on community boards. "We have been very fortunate," said Don, "and this is not by accident. We have an obligation to take things we have been given and use those gifts to give back." He believes that this philosophy is what it is to be Catholic, educated by Jesuits, and truly have a faith that is lived out in action. "When we can't be in direct service, we *can* provide the time (such as serving on boards) and treasure (such as the scholarship) to allow others to do this."

Men and Women for others

The Laydens are very devoted to helping Marquette further its mission of excellence in faith, leadership and service. "I believe that people have an obligation to give back in the best way they can...in a way in which they can use their own gifts to make the most impact. For me, my undergraduate and law school educations gave me some great opportunities, so giving back to them in this manner is the right thing to do," said Don.

Don and Mary Jo have four children, ages 11 to 19. Mary Jo is an advocate at Community Advocates and opts not to receive a salary. This is her way of living her faith and giving, one-on-one, not only her time, but her tremendous capacity for compassion. Don is the President of NuEdge Systems, a leading developer of marketing automation software solutions. He has held senior management positions with Fiserv (President, Lending Systems Division), Marshall & Ilsley Corporation (Senior Vice President and CEO, Trust and Investment Management Group) and Metavante (Senior Vice President and CFO). Don began his career practicing law as a partner in the Quarles & Brady law firm, where he concentrated his practice in corporate law and mergers and acquisitions.



In addition to his leadership at NuEdge, Don also serves on the board of private companies. He is also the past Chairman and a director of FEI Behavioral Health.

Don is deeply committed to the community. His leadership roles have focused on economic development, education and advocacy for families. He currently serves as Director, Nativity Jesuit Middle School; Trustee, Alverno College; Chairman, Families International, the parent of the Alliance for Children & Families; Director, Competitive Wisconsin, Inc.; Chairman, Private Industry Council, a workforce development board; Chairman, Archdiocesan Resource Development Council and Trustee, Consuelo Foundation. He and Mary Jo also are members of the Boston College Parents Council.

Any discussion of their community involvement also includes three of their passions—church, politics and scouting. Both Don and Mary Jo are active in their church, chairing various committees or otherwise pitching in to help. Don chaired the Milwaukee County Grounds Land Use Planning Committee and was recently recognized by the Wauwatosa Library Foundation with a leadership award. An Eagle Scout, Don has provided leadership to scouting as president and chairman of the Board of the Milwaukee Boy Scouts and as a Scoutmaster.

It is with gratitude that we recognize him and Mary Jo—true examples of men and women for others—for their generous contributions. •