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The University of Dayton

News Release

March 27, 1991
Contact: Jim Feuer

\$2 MILLION BEQUEST TO UD, LARGEST EVER GIVEN BY AN ALUMNUS

DAYTON, Ohio -- A 1958 University of Dayton graduate has given approximately \$2 million in a bequest to the University, the largest bequest ever given by an alumnus.

One half of the bequest from Thomas C. Versic, a native of Oakwood who died last June, established a scholarship fund "to assist deserving young men and women" in pre-medicine, natural science and business administration.

The remainder of the bequest goes into a charitable remainder unitrust to benefit members of Versic's family. When the trust dissolves after a number of years, the remaining assets of the trust will be added to the scholarship fund.

"Tom was a generous man who believed that he was blessed in life and that he should use those blessings to help others," says Patrick M. Joyce, vice president for university advancement.

"Tom recognized that this scholarship would continue in his memory for generations helping needy young men and women at the University of Dayton go on to medical or business careers. At the same time, he was comforted to know that a portion of his estate will provide income for members of his family as he directed."

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An ophthalmologist in Cincinnati for 21 years, Versic earned a bachelor's in pre-medicine at UD. He earned his medical degree at Marquette University and served his residency in ophthalmology at Ohio State. Later in his career, Versic earned a master's in business administration at Xavier University.

Versic was a flight surgeon in the United States Air Force and received the Air Medal for his service in Vietnam. As a volunteer with Project Hope in Ecuador and Ceylon, he treated rare eye diseases usually not seen in the United States. Versic was a member of American College of Surgeons.

"Home and his family were what mattered to Tom, and the University of Dayton was his home," says David Versic, Tom's brother and executor of the estate. "Tom appreciated the value of his education at UD and was thrilled to have this opportunity to give others the opportunity he had."

To be eligible for the Dr. Thomas C. Versic Memorial Scholarship, students must have graduated in the top 50 percent of their high school class, and to be eligible for annual renewal, the recipient must maintain a minimum grade-point average of 3.0.

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For media interviews, contact **Patrick M. Joyce** at (513) 229-2911 or **Jim Feuer**, director of media relations, at (513) 229-3241.