

The Cook Brothers and Doernbecher: A Gift 80 Years in the Making

Brothers Richard Cook, 87, and McKenzie (Ken) Cook, 85, grew up in the shadow of Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) on Marquam Hill. And for Ken, the proximity to OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital saved his life when he was seriously injured as a child.

"As a young lad of about 4 years of age, I ran across the street to follow my brother Richard and got struck by a car on Veteran's Hospital Road," he recalls. "If it hadn't been for my father, who put me in the back of his pickup truck, and my Aunt Sarah, who was the head nurse at Doernbecher Children's Hospital, I wouldn't be here today."

After a month in the hospital, Ken fully recovered. That experience, plus a lifetime connection to OHSU, inspired the brothers to make planned gifts to benefit Doernbecher and contribute to lifesaving care for the youngest and most vulnerable of patients.

A LIFELONG TIE TO OHSU

Known as the "Marquam Hill Boys" by the students, faculty and neighbors who crossed paths with them, Richard and Ken spent an idyllic childhood with two other siblings exploring the wooded hill around OHSU. Their parents, Harold and Ruth, owned and ran a boarding house on Marquam Hill for OHSU students, as well as other properties on the hillside.



Brothers Richard Cook, 87, and McKenzie (Ken) Cook, 85

"As a paper boy, I would walk by Doernbecher Children's Hospital every day," said Ken. "It was a daily occasion for us to be in the hospital."

Richard and Ken wanted to give back to Doernbecher in the form of a planned gift. Both brothers have committed a portion of their estate to Doernbecher in memory of their aunt, Sarah Cook, who was head nurse at the hospital in the 1940s; their parents; and the care team that treated Ken.

Dr. Dana Braner, Chair for Pediatrics at OHSU Doernbecher, shares, "Planned gifts can truly make a difference in the lives of our patients and their families. Hearing their story and meeting the

The Cook Brothers & Doernbecher

brothers shows how one experience in a hospital can change the trajectory of someone's life."

Added Rochelle Makela-Goodman, Assistant Vice President of Gift Planning at the OHSU Foundation, "Gifts made through one's estate cost a donor nothing during their lifetime and have a lasting impact on our community's health."

"The way I look at life is not what I've taken or gotten from life, but what I can give back. I've been blessed, and now it's my time to give back. Doernbecher Hospital is at the top of the list."

— KEN COOK

Our Gift to You

As you plan, discover the partners you'll want to have along the way. Return the enclosed reply card for your FREE copy of *Build Your Best Will Planning Team*.



Oregon Health
& Science University
FOUNDATION

2020 SW 4th Ave. Suite 900
Portland, OR 97201

To include OHSU or Doernbecher Children's Hospital in your plans, visit us online: plannedgiving.ohsufoundation.org or email us at giftplanninginfo@ohsu.edu or call us at 503-228-1730.

To make a gift today, visit us online: ohsufoundation.org

Please contact the OHSU Privacy Office at 855-257-4100 or optout@ohsu.edu if you no longer wish to receive fundraising information.

Affordable Ways to Make an Impact

The health care workers at OHSU and Doernbecher Children's Hospital make miracles happen every day. Like the Cook brothers, you too can help make an incredible impact. Below are creative ways to share your gratitude — neither of which requires parting with any money today.

HERE ARE TWO POPULAR OPTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. A Gift in Your Will

This type of gift is simple, flexible, and versatile — all it takes is a few sentences. Since you aren't making a gift until after your lifetime, you can change your mind if circumstances shift.

Plus, you have options: Structure your gift to leave a specific sum of money or leave a percentage of your estate instead. A percentage gift is a smart way to ensure your generosity remains proportionate to the size of your estate.

2. Beneficiary Designation

Designating OHSU and Doernbecher as a beneficiary of one of your assets takes minutes to complete. Contact your plan administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form, fill it out, and submit — that's it!

The following assets allow you to designate a beneficiary or beneficiaries:

- Retirement plans
- Individual retirement accounts (IRAs)
- Life insurance policies
- Donor advised funds
- Bank or brokerage accounts