Joseph W. Booth ‘95, Nelson & Booth Children and Family Law Scholarship

“The decision to endow a fund for the Children and Family Law Center was an easy one. Personally, I benefited from scholarships and other gifts that made my law career possible, profitable, and enjoyable. To pay back what was given, was the right thing to do. My success can be directly traced to the gifts of my predecessors, my duty now inures to future students. This gift is intended to help further the professionalism of family law, an effort that benefits the families we serve, the profession as a whole and the discipline of family law.”

“Like family law, true changes happen one person at a time but the effects spin out for generations. In family law the process is not only growing more specialized but the approach is a very different one from many other fields of practice in that it demands that we look at the effects of our decisions, practice methods, and define success not only by the instant goals of our clients but by their needs down the line. So, choosing a way to make a difference for my school realistically needs to follow the same path, help individual students in order that they in turn will follow suit and provide well-founded professional representation to their clients and one day, hopefully, these practitioners will return the favor to the profession as well.”
Edward ’88 and Carole Kainen Children and Family Law Fund

“Washburn University School of Law is widely renowned as being the very best in the nation and on the cutting edge of whatever is happening in family law. Distinguished Professor of Law, Linda Elrod, is universally recognized as being the national authority on family law matters. The Family Law Quarterly, is the foremost family law publication in the United States, and Professor Elrod has been its editor-in-chief for more than a decade. In the world of family law, our small school in Topeka leads the way.”

“The Children & Family Law Center, just by being associated with the School of Law and Professor Elrod, will necessarily be at the forefront in preparing students to become future leaders in family law. Through the Center, and under the guidance of the Center’s Director, Linda Elrod, students are given valuable hands-on experience and training in responding to the legal needs of children and their families. Valuable opportunities exist for participation in the Clinic program, mentoring by alumni, and involvement with lectures, symposia, and internships.”

“My time at Washburn was an entirely positive experience. Since then, the practice of family law has been rewarding for me and a benefit for my family. Endowing a fund to help meet the commendable and praiseworthy goals of the Children & Family Law Center, is simply a small part of giving back and doing the right thing.”