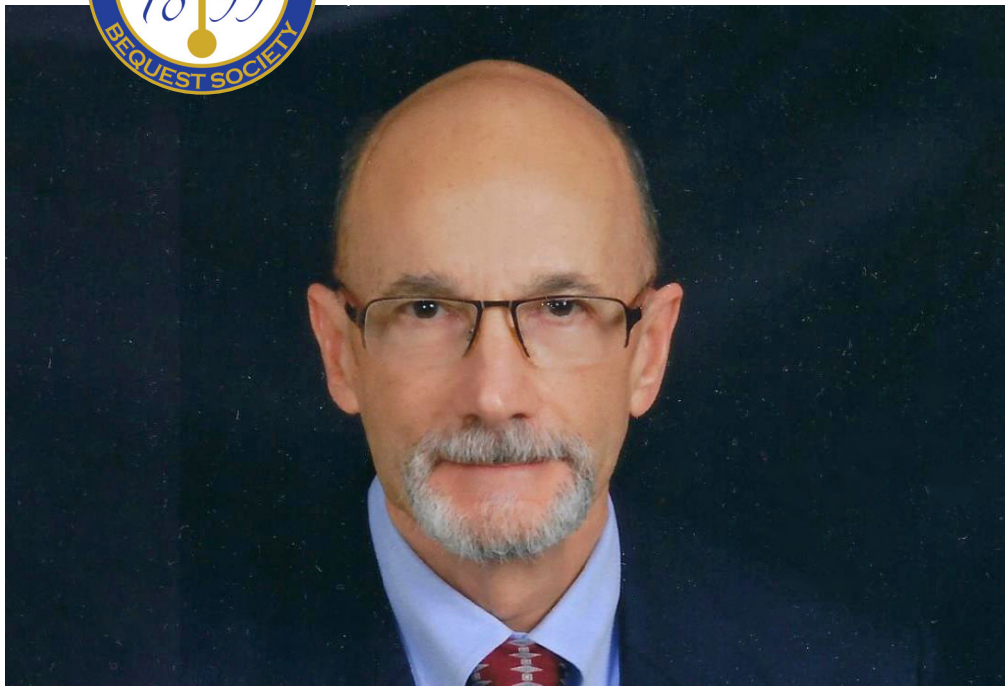




1899 BEQUEST SOCIETY

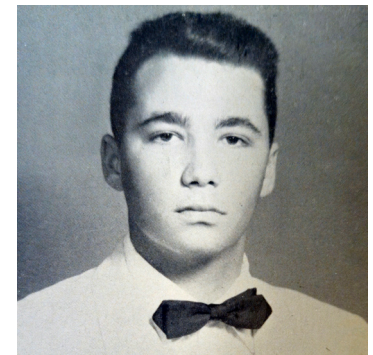


SAM MILITELLO '55



Giving back in this way recognizes the importance of Jesuit High School in shaping my life - my professional career and personal life.

Sam Militello '55



Sam Militello '55 has long been immersed in Jesuit education and influence.

For four years, Militello was a student on Jesuit's downtown campus, forming "the moral background of my life." His wife, Nancy, attended a Jesuit institution, Spring Hill College. Members of her family attended Loyola New Orleans.

Their sons, **Andrew Militello '95** and **Charles Militello '97**, are Jesuit alumni, as are other relatives.

So it should come as no surprise that Militello believes the Jesuits and Jesuit High School have had a major impact on his life.

"Jesuit education and the mission of the Jesuits is very important to us," Militello said. "I attribute any success I achieved to the intellectual discipline and moral guidance provided by Jesuit education. I've tried to live my personal and professional life by the mantra of doing the right thing."

Militello's West Tampa family was hard-working but of modest means. His father was a carpenter and his mother worked in a cigar factory. They wanted Catholic education for their children but could not afford tuition.

"They wanted me to go to Jesuit," Militello said. "My dad, bless his heart, went to see **Fr. Michael Kennelly, S.J.**, who was Rector at time. Dad told him we can't afford it. I don't know what tuition was, but Father Kennelly gave him a reduced tuition. It might have been free, I don't know. But I know it was enough."

After graduating from the University of Florida with a Civil Engineering degree, Militello embarked on a long and successful career, notably building bridges with J.E. Greiner Co. in the Baltimore area. He moved up the ladder, from project engineer to project manager to office manager to regional director and eventually national director of operations.

"The business world can be pretty ruthless," Militello said. "But I always kept in mind what I learned at Jesuit, and what was most important."

Eventually he took a job as Chief Operating Officer with TBE Group in Clearwater, bringing the family back to the Tampa Bay area and allowing his sons to attend Jesuit High School.

Through the years, Militello has made several generous donations to Jesuit. He wants that to continue, so he joined the school's 1899 Bequest Society. Bequest Society members are those who indicate in writing that they have made provisions for Jesuit High School in their will or estate plans.

"We have been blessed to have substantial financial assets, we were very fortunate in our investments," Militello said. "We've made arrangements for family members, and we also have reached out to institutions that have been important to forming our lives, such as Jesuit."

"Giving back in this way recognizes the importance of Jesuit High School in shaping my life - my professional career and personal life. And to help support the mission of Jesuit High School, as well as helping students who can't afford to attend." ^{AM} ^{DC}

For information about Jesuit's 1899 Bequest Society please contact Nick Suszynski '98 at (813) 877-5344, ext. 704.