

together

FROM FRESHMEN TO FOREVER

Bruce and Betty Angell fondly recall Defiance College and have included DC in their estate plan

*by Cindy Shaffer '03, '09
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With a twinkle in his eye, Bruce Angell is quick to recall how he met Betty Melberg on September 18, 1966. The crackle of the Defiance College Homecoming bonfire filled the air. Both were DC freshmen, attired in their “beanies” and still acquainting themselves with college life. They have been a couple ever since that evening.

Betty grew up in Massachusetts, the youngest of three children. Her brother went to Oregon for college and her sister to North Carolina, so when the pastor at the United Church of Christ church she attended suggested that she consider Defiance College in Ohio, it seemed perfectly natural that she might choose a college far from home. Betty recalls that her parents had planned for the expense of college so she didn’t have to work as a student. As she explains, “My job was to get good grades.”

Bruce’s situation was much different. His family did not have the resources for college. He knew in the fifth grade that he wanted to go to college, but because his older siblings had not applied themselves in school, Bruce was also labeled as “not college material.” He had to work extra hard to prove himself. The hard work paid off, as he found himself in a special cohort of math students at Bedford (Michigan) High School with an instructor who challenged the group to do calculations in their heads as opposed to using a calculator. Bruce has used these learned techniques ever since. However, it was his assistant wrestling coach who told him about Defiance College.

Both fondly recall their days at Defiance College and the impact the college has had on their careers since. During her senior year at DC, Betty, who majored in elementary education, was part of an experimental



Bruce and Betty Angell in their home

student teaching experience in the Napoleon (Ohio) school district. She was in the classroom all day, every day for the entire year. She worked with two lead teachers, which gave her exposure to two diverse teaching styles. By the end of the year, Betty had taught every subject and earned one year of credit toward her teaching retirement. “The experience I got that year gave me a lot of confidence for the job in Galion,” says Betty, referring to her 30-year career as a fourth grade teacher.

Among his best DC memories are the days that Bruce spent as a student in Dr. Jim Frey’s biology class. Although he was majoring in business education, Frey encouraged Bruce to consider switching to biology because he had ended the year with the second highest grade in the class. “Dr. Frey is the faculty member who helped me

the most. That (doing so well in his class) is what gave me confidence,” Bruce recalls. Bruce served in the Army after graduation from DC and then also taught in the Galion school system for 10 years before taking a position in corporate America.

Two years ago, Bruce and Betty took a serious look at their financial future and created an estate plan that includes a generous gift to Defiance College. “Somebody paid for me to go, too,” Bruce reflects. “I owe everything to that degree.” Betty chimes in, “It is DC that we owe for our teaching jobs in Galion.” Looking for jobs after Bruce’s time in the service, the Angells contacted the Defiance College Placement Bureau and received the referral to the Galion schools. They both had interviews with principals at 9:00 on a Friday night and received their teaching contracts in the mail

three days later.

When asked why the inclusion of the College in their estate plans, Betty offered, "We both had a real good experience at Defiance. We felt that we wanted to give back." She continued, "We have been really blessed. Bruce has the wherewithal (to manage their finances), but we have been so blessed." ♦

MANY WAYS TO CREATE YOUR OWN LEGACY AT DEFIANCE COLLEGE

The choice to support Defiance College through your estate can be made in a number of ways:

- ◆ A bequest in a will or living trust – Like Bruce and Betty, many friends include a bequest of a specific dollar amount or a percentage of their estate.
- ◆ Life insurance policies – Defiance College can be named the beneficiary of a policy that is no longer needed for family security.
- ◆ Charitable gift annuities and trusts – Family members can receive income for life, with the trust assets then coming to Defiance College.
- ◆ Gifts of business assets – contribute stock in a closely held corporation

CONTACT Cindy Shaffer,
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at 419-783-2306 or
cshaffer@defiance.edu to explore
your dream of helping
future generations
of Defiance College students.

NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED

*Jenni Morrison removes interim title
and begins her new full-time role
in the summer of 2010*

President Mark C. Gordon recently announced that Jenni Morrison, who has been serving for this academic year as interim co-athletic director with head baseball coach Derek Woodley, has accepted the full-time role of athletic director for the institution starting July 1. Until that time, Morrison and Woodley will continue to serve as interim co-directors.



Jenni Morrison

"I am very pleased that Jenni Morrison has accepted my request that she assume the duties of athletic director full-time," said President Gordon. "Jenni brings significant knowledge regarding NCAA rules and regulations, athletic administration, and the specific challenges and opportunities facing DC athletics. She has impressed me as well with her good judgment and ability to think creatively, and I know that she has earned the respect of those with whom she works. We look forward to much success throughout our athletic programs under Jenni's superb leadership."

"I also would like to express publicly my gratitude and appreciation to baseball head coach Derek Woodley who stepped in at my request to share responsibilities with Jenni during this transitional year," said Gordon. "Derek has a wide range of skills, broad knowledge, and a wonderful combination of energy and dedication. He has performed admirably as he has balanced the responsibilities of his current interim position with those of his continuing position as head baseball coach. We are very fortunate to have him as our head baseball coach, and I know that he is eager to devote all his energies in that direction."

"I am looking forward to this opportunity to continue working with the Defiance College administration, the campus community and the athletic staff to provide a quality and valuable experience for all DC student-athletes," stated Morrison. "We have a very hardworking and dedicated athletic staff and I am excited to work with them to continue to build a successful athletic program."

In addition to her service as interim co-athletic director and as DC's assistant athletic director for the previous two years, Morrison also served as athletic director for three years at Penn State-Fayette. Prior to her first stint as an athletic director, Morrison earned a master's degree in business administration from California University of Pennsylvania.

During her time at California University of Pennsylvania, Morrison attained a bachelor's degree in sports management and was a two-year starter on the basketball team. When her playing career ended, Morrison joined the coaching staff and helped guide the Vulcans to the NCAA Division II National Championship in 2004.