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\$20 Million Wesley Family Foundation Gift Will Boost Endowment And Provide Student Activities Center

Out of a desire to see young men get the good education he never received, Joseph L. Wesley Sr., founder of AmQuip Crane Rental LLC, a crane leasing giant, and his wife, Marion M. Wesley, made a \$20 million donation to Williamson in January through the Joseph and Marion Wesley Family Foundation.

The gift will be used to construct a student activities center, with the remainder going to strengthen the endowment. Both initiatives are part of the current *Building for the Future* Comprehensive Campaign.

Wesley began giving to Williamson in 2017 and decided to make his most

recent and generous gift because his interest in the school has grown as he learns more about Williamson and its mission.

He has had a desire to help young people receive an education for a long time because he grew up with a limited education and knows how difficult this makes pursuing a career.

President Michael J. Rounds said, "We are humbled by the generosity of Joseph and Marion Wesley. Few men are more accomplished in business and their personal life than Joe. His love of family and country are evident in all that he does. Much like Isaiah Williamson, he is motivated by philanthropy and a love

of mankind."

Wesley said, "Williamson is building true patriots and our country needs more of them."

Wesley founded the American Equipment Rental Co., in 1967. As the company grew through acquisitions to become a major American crane rental company, it changed its name in the early 1980s to AmQuip Corp., "The Crane People." Later, it was named AmQuip Crane Rental LLC.

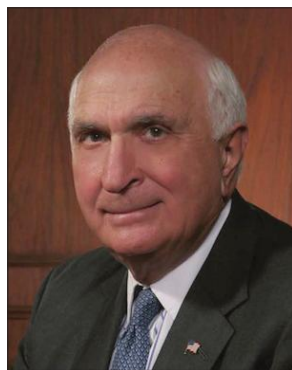
Under Wesley's leadership, the company, headquartered in Bensalem, Pa., became one of the largest crane rental companies in the world. In 2007, he sold the company to a private equity



Marion M. and Joseph L. Wesley firm, but served on the board for many years.

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Home Depot Cofounder To Speak At 127th Commencement



Kenneth G. Langone

Kenneth G. Langone, a financier, investor, and philanthropist who is best known as the cofounder of Home Depot, will deliver the keynote address at Commencement, at 2 p.m., Friday, May 29, in a tent on the lawn in front of Rowan Hall.

Langone will inspire the Class of 2020 as they receive associate in specialized technology degrees or craftsman diplomas and are sent into the world of work.

In 1978, Langone became cofounder of Home Depot with his determination, willpower, and persuasive personality. Today, Home Depot is one of the most admired and respected companies in

the United States.

He began his career in the early 1960s at R.W. Pressprich, a Wall Street financial services company, where he developed new business, and in 1969 was named president. He first made a name for himself when he made Ross Perot Sr.'s Electronic Data Systems public in 1968.

Today he is founder and CEO of Invemed Associates LLC; independent director at Unifi, Inc.; chairman at New York University Langone Medical Center; chairman at Salem Holding Co.; co-chairman at New York University Hospitals Center; and vice chairman-board

development at the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation.

He is on the board of directors of Geeknet, Inc.; Unifi, Inc.; Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation; Micell Technologies, Inc.; National Italian American Foundation; Relationship Science LLC; Robin Hood Foundation; Ronald McDonald House of New York, Inc.; Harlem Children's Zone, Inc.; New York University; and Center for Strategic & International Studies, Inc.

He wrote a book titled "I Love Capitalism!" which demonstrates his love of capitalism and his rise to a successful

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Strines Pledge \$2.3 Million For Construction Of New Dormitory

Trustee William B. and Judith B. Strine have pledged \$2.3 million to Williamson for the construction of a new dormitory, announced President Michael J. Rounds.

The dormitory is expected to be ready for use at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year and will hold 20 students. Kevin Blackney 7W6, co-owner of Blackney Hayes Architects, is designing the dormitory to look like the dormitories that were designed by Frank Furness, maintaining the historical integrity of the campus.

The Campus Master Plan, a comprehensive study that will determine best how to utilize the campus' 220 acres and structures, which is now underway, will determine where the new dormitory will be located on campus.

Rounds said, "We are delighted that our long-time trustee Bill Strine and his wife Judy have decided to help the school in this way. This new dormitory will allow us to enroll an additional 20 students each year, which is a dream we have held for a number of years. It is also encouraging to see Bill honor the legacy of his father - Walter Strine 2W9, who also did a great deal to help his alma mater over the years and provided the funding for the Strine Learning Center. This is truly paying it forward when a son honors his father in this manner."

William Strine said, "The driving force behind this donation is the idea of graduating more students from Williamson; seeing more young men benefit from a Williamson education. Even though Williamson has wonderful educational

facilities and is constantly making new developments, it has been 50 years since

the school has increased the number of

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Judith B. and William B. Strine

Stuckey's Founder's Day Talk Emphasizes Importance Of Faith

Founder's Day, a day to honor Isaiah V. Williamson and his legacy, featured a keynote address by trustee John Stuckey and the bestowing of two board of trustee awards and two Sons of the American Revolution awards.

In place of a traditional address, Stuckey sat on the stage of the Clara Schrenk Memorial Chapel and answered questions on the role of faith at Williamson posed by chaplain Mark Specht 7W7, who was seated beside him.

Asked how he got involved with Williamson, Stuckey, the son of former trustee Willard Stuckey 4W7, said his father spoke of the school often and had dreamed for years of endowing a chaplaincy at Williamson so they wouldn't have to rely on volunteer pastors. When he passed away before fulfilling his dream, his son made his father's dream a reality in the early 1990s. Shortly afterward, he joined the board, attracted to the faith component of the school.

Stuckey said "My father felt the most important thing he could give was the ability of making faith our own. You are fortunate because you get to start each day in chapel thinking about the most important thing in life — faith. Faith gives me purpose, hope, and happiness. We can't give you a personal faith, but the opportunity to find your faith.

"Williamson was founded by a man of faith and he knew the blessings and success he had in life came from God. He wanted to honor God with his school and help those who God put around him, which were the boys he saw standing on the streets of Philadelphia."

Stuckey said his father, who went on to own a car dealership, achieved what he did in life because of the self-discipline, self esteem, and leadership he gained as a student at Williamson.

Asked how he feels about serving on the board, he said "The board is 21 guys who focus on how to make the school better with the resources that we have."

When Specht asked what he would like to say to Isaiah Williamson, Stuckey said, "Thank you. He acted in love. He didn't know you guys, but he wanted you to have something."

President Michael Rounds presented Stuckey with a keepsake box with a picture of Rowan Hall on it.

Rounds said, "For over 130 years

Isaiah Williamson has been inspiring young men that he never met. We are stewards of that legacy."

Samuel Wrightson, vice president of education, said Isaiah Williamson was the best example of what graduates of the school should be like and the original trustees selected the values that led to Williamson's success to pass on to the students, which, today are the core values of faith, integrity, diligence, excellence, and service.

Frank O'Donnell, past president of the Sons of the American Revolution presented the William Yearsley 4W1 Outstanding Citizenship Award to Deontá Martin, a junior construction technology-carpentry student, and Joshua Baldinger, a junior machine tool technology student [see articles on page 12].

The award is presented to juniors who have shown outstanding citizenship and the qualities of industry, self-discipline, personal integrity, reliability, and contributions above the call of duty. They must have a GPA of 3.25 or higher and have fewer than 28 disciplinary points.

In his Student Tribute, Chris Thomas 2W0, senior class president, said "Isaiah Vansant Williamson saw a future that no one else could see — a future that would help others and at the same time, bring the world what it needs: Williamson men. We students are given the chance to develop, thrive, and flourish. We are grateful, more than anyone can know."

Ryan Myers 9W6, in his Alumni Tribute, said "Isaiah Williamson had a goal and felt a responsibility and obligation to provide young men with a purpose and opportunity. His generosity, passion for learning, and insistency for core values created Williamson College."

Board Chairman William Bonenberger 7W9 said, "We owe Isaiah Williamson a tremendous debt of gratitude for a gift that keeps on giving. When our students leave on graduation day they take with them trade skills, leadership skills, and the core values that provide a foundation they will build on the rest of their lives."

In announcing the presentation of the Isaiah V. Williamson Award to trustee Thomas Ott, founder and president of Industrial Energy Programs Co., LLC., Bonenberger said, "Tom is not with us

Strine Gift To Provide New Dorm

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graduates. We need to graduate more young men and the way to do this is to increase the dormitory capacity. This also fits in with some other new developments at the campus, such as increasing the size of the dining room.

"If my father was here, this is something I know he would be doing. I know this would have made him smile and it feels good that I am able to carry on his

legacy. I am the beneficiary of a Williamson graduate. I am recognizing that with this gift and I want to do my part in giving back to the school that benefitted me. My father was able to have a successful career because of his Williamson education and my wife and I are benefactors of my father's business. We feel blessed that we are able to help the school in this manner."



As the Founder's Day keynote speaker, Trustee John Stuckey (right) speaks on the importance of faith as Mark Specht 7W7, chaplain (left), poses questions on the stage of the Clara Schrenk Memorial Chapel.

tonight because he is on a mission trip to Guatemala building houses for the poor. He is not a Williamson graduate, but he is a Williamson man and is living out our core value of service."

Ott has been a Williamson trustee for four years, but for many more years has been applying his extensive experience of 55 years in the power field to creating Williamson's Energy Island, serving as project manager.

In a video of Ott receiving the award during an earlier chapel service, he said "Williamson belongs to the Lord. It is His school. We are all placed here by the Lord to help you students. The type of person you are going to be is your decision. Just keep the core values in your life and you will do well. As you go out into the world, be faithful to the Lord, your family, your employer. Be a true Williamson man."

Bonenberger then presented the Young Alumnus Award to Curtis Scho-

field 0W2, who has served Williamson for eight years as the head tennis coach, one year as the assistant coach, and is an admissions assistant, giving talks at high schools to attract future students. He works as an operator at a chemical plant and a district operations manager at several trampoline parks.

Schofield said, "This award means a lot to me. People go to Williamson for different reasons, but for me it was a life changing decision and a way out. It was the best choice I ever made. It's an honor to receive this award, but this award belongs to a lot of other people who have shaped and molded me along the way."

The Artisans closed the evening leading the audience in the singing of the alma mater. Specht gave the invocation and benediction. After the program, guests enjoyed a buffet dinner in the dining room prepared by Tim Burbage, food service director, and his staff.

Wesley Gift To Provide Activities Center

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Wesley joined the Marines at a very young age. It was while serving in the military that he learned how to operate cranes and realized he was good at it.

At the age of 16, he married Marion and started a family. After leaving the Marines, he borrowed money and went into the crane rental business. He worked hard to make his company successful and even put his house up as equity so he could purchase more equipment.

As his wealth grew and he neared retirement, he created the Joseph and Marion Wesley Family Foundation, concentrating on educational organizations.

His first major gift was to the Pennington School, an independent coeducational school in Pennington, N.J., for students in grades six through 12, where all ten of his grandchildren attended.

This whet his appetite for giving to another school and in 2017, after learning of Williamson from a member of the board of trustees, he visited for the first time. He was so impressed with

Williamson's mission that he returned for another tour. He liked that many of the students had a background similar to his and saw the value of a trade education. A patriotic man who believes the United States is a country of opportunity, he also was impressed with Williamson's values-based education.

The Joseph and Marion Wesley Student Activity Center will provide students with a place to play sports, have activities, and offer a campus location where they can spend their free time.

A feasibility study is in progress by Spiegle Architectural Group, of Springfield, Pa., to determine such things as the location of the center, the design, and what will it contain.

The study included feedback from current students, alumni, and PAC members to see what they would like the center to contain.

The Joseph and Marion Wesley Student Activity Center will complete the capital components of Williamson's Strategic Plan focused on improving student life.