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Planned gift from alum's estate funds history scholarship

Furman University

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James Branham '56 arrived at the University of South Carolina-Coastal Carolina in 1963. At the time the college was a two-year institution and the campus, located in Conway, S.C., consisted of just two completed buildings and an unpaved parking lot. Branham was one of a handful of instructors hired to teach the school's 105 full-time students.

When he retired in 1991 as Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, the college, known today as Coastal Carolina University, was a four-year institution with 23 buildings and more than 4,000 students.

Upon his death October 2 at the age of 83, Coastal Carolina lost one of its founding faculty members and teaching legends. In his estate, Branham provided funds to establish a history scholarship at Furman.

"James Branham was a loyal son of Furman," says A.V. Huff, retired dean and history professor at Furman. "He was a living embodiment of the liberal arts ideal of learning and critical thinking.

He fell in love with history at Furman under the tutelage of Dr. D.H. Gilpatrick, whom he sought to emulate."

At Furman Branham received the Bradshaw-Feaster Medal for General Excellence and was elected to Quaternion, the men's select honorary society. He earned a master's degree from West Virginia University in 1959 and taught at Furman for two years before accepting a fellowship to the University of Georgia, where he remained until moving to Coastal.

Known for his high standards and rigorous classes, he was the first recipient of Coastal Carolina's Teacher of the Year award and chaired the history department for many years.



Contact betsy.moseley@furman.edu, (864) 294-3491, to learn more about planned giving opportunities.

Student testimonials reflect Furman United's impact

Furman United is the special effort launched this academic year to build scholarship support for students facing financial hardships caused by the economic downturn. The university is working to raise \$800,000 during the next two years to help meet the increased needs of students.

Is the program having an impact? Consider the following testimonials from two students who have benefited already.

Virginia Rogers '11, a history major from Marysville, Ohio, says, "The donations made to Furman United are invaluable. Furman

opens doors and allows its students to pursue opportunities that aren't available in other places."

And from Katie Brasher '10, a French major from Weddington, N.C.: "As families find themselves in worsening fiscal situations, it is important to remember what a gift quality education is. That is what Furman United is giving me — with my Furman diploma, a future that reaches beyond the cost of tuition."

Visit www.furman-united.com to learn more.

Furman
United
stats

399

Number of students requesting additional financial aid or first-time aid in 2009-10.

107

Number of students helped to date through Furman United.

310,000

Dollar amount of Furman United support awarded to date.

90,000

Dollar amount needed to reach this year's Furman United goal.