

Throughout Houghton College's history, countless alumni have made unique and transformative contributions to our timeless mission. These contributions grow out of hearts dedicated to investing in the formation of young believers to help shape them into scholar-servants who are equipped to lead and labor in whatever ways God has called them.

Over the past three years, two such Houghton alumni have made tireless efforts to enhance Houghton's mission to equip future generations of aspiring scholar-servants: Debra McKay Canfield, Class of 1976, and Kevin Knowlton, Class of 1979.

Together, Debra (also nicknamed Windy by many here in Houghton) and Kevin shouldered the tremendous responsibilities of co-chairing *IMPACT: The Campaign for Greater Houghton*. Through their guidance, support, and determination, on May 31, 2020, when the campaign was officially completed, more than \$70,500,000 was generated to support student scholarships, capital projects, and curricular and co-curricular programs. As individuals, they gave sacrificially of their time, talents and resources, and graciously invited others to come alongside. They shared from their hearts, offered prayers, hosted events, and gave sound counsel as the Houghton Faithful came together to make IMPACT a resounding success.

Of their sacrificial contributions to Houghton College, President Shirley Mullen, Class of 1976, remarks: "Chairing the IMPACT Campaign is the culmination of a lifelong commitment by both Kevin and Windy as volunteers. For Kevin, this service has included the Alumni Board, Chairing the President's Advisory Board, serving on the Board of Trustees, and chairing the Willard J. Houghton Foundation. Along with other members from the Class of 1979, Kevin has always sought to be student-centered—ensuring that Houghton continues to be a place that puts students on a trajectory that realizes their potential beyond what they could have imagined for the good of the world. Windy's commitment, up until she became a member of the Board of Trustees, where she now chairs the audit committee, was much more behind the scenes, but no less important. She and her husband Chris have been proactive recruiters of prospective students, bringing them to campus for special events such as the Christmas Prism, and creating an endowed scholarship to make Houghton more affordable. Both Kevin and Windy also model in their respective work as an attorney and a small business owner the kind of Kingdom impact that we hope for all of our alumni."

Windy graduated from Houghton in 1976, having majored in business administration and minored in mathematics and Christian education. A year later, she completed her Master's degree in Accounting at Syracuse University. She began her career as an internal auditor with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, and after 12 years at Dairylea Cooperative, Windy and her husband Chris joined the family-owned business Canfield Machine and Tool. Since 1995, Windy has served at Canfield Machine and Tool as the Director of Information Systems.

In addition to her career, Windy has spent tireless hours volunteering with SIL International and Wycliffe Global Alliance, offering her skills as an auditor and database developer to ensure the financial health of missions' organizations around the world. Windy has also used this work to inspire Houghton students to use their giftings as auditors and accountants to benefit the global church, leading them on missions trips around the world.

Of her work with SIL, colleague David Cram says, "Nothing stops Windy. She has slept in airports, flown all over Africa and Asia, and had jetlag in almost every time zone. She has made friends everywhere she

goes. I praise the Lord for the tremendous contribution Windy has made toward bringing the wonderful message of salvation to those who have not heard it in a language they understand.”

Kevin graduated from Houghton in 1979, a history major with a minor in political science. He was a varsity basketball player and vice president of the student senate his senior year. In 1981 he completed his JD at Syracuse University and subsequently served as a law clerk to Judge Stephen H. Grimes of the Florida Second District Court of Appeal. Since 1985, he has been an attorney with the law firm of Peterson and Myers, PA, where is currently a senior shareholder.

In addition to his law practice, Kevin has dedicated tireless hours as the Chair of the Board of Directors of Lakeland Christian School, a K-12 day school of approximately 1,100 students. Mr. Knowlton is a member of the Institutional Review Board and has served numerous terms on his church board and on the boards of various non-profit organizations. He is a member of the Lakeland Bar Association, Polk County Trial Lawyers Association, American Health Law Association, and the National Association of College and University Attorneys. Mr. Knowlton was an original member of the Willson American Inn of Court.

Of Kevin, fellow Houghton College Trustee and 1979 classmate Terry Slye remarks, “He is thoughtful, well-informed, well-connected, generous, and wise -- and he has brought all these abilities to Houghton, to serve the college extraordinarily well for decades. Kevin is incredibly committed to his alma mater and he has a personal spiritual depth that motivates his concern for Houghton’s spiritual life and its ability to disciple graduates who can go into their world and be ‘salt and light.’”

Both Kevin and Windy have served their alma mater faithfully as members of the Board of Trustees, Kevin since 2005 and Windy since 2016, after serving on the President’s Advisory Board. Kevin and his wife Lois, also class of 1979, are charter members of the 1883 Society and members of the James S. Luckey Society. The Knowltons were instrumental in the creation of the Class of 1979 Scholarship endowment fund and the Bruce Merritt Memorial Scholarship endowment fund. They have also supported the Student Scholarship Fund, the Paine Center for Science renovations, and the Equestrian Center campaign. Windy and her husband Chris, Class of 1977, are also charter members of the 1883 Society and members of the James S. Luckey Society. They have given sacrificially to the renovations of the Paine Center for Science and to create The Bezalel Award, an endowed scholarship.

Windy and Kevin, for your strong and active commitment to the support and growth of Houghton College, it is our privilege to award you each with the 2020 Alumni Appreciation Award.