

## Clark and Gracie Lusk

Education has always been a priority for Clark and Gracie Lusk of Hayden, so much so that when Clark retired from his successful banking career he moved on to a second career as a teacher at Hayden Elementary and taught for 15 years.

“We want to see people get ahead and better themselves,” said Clark, who also served on the Board of Directors of Friends of Head Start and was board president. “I’ve seen a lot of good that can come when people have the education and skills that allow them to get ahead in life.”

As Idaho Community Foundation Legacy Society members, the Lusks will use a portion of their estate to create a scholarship for students who want to pursue professional technical education or who are first generation college students. Professional technical education emphasizes skilled trades, applied sciences, technology and industry certification.

“We have a family legacy of going to college and beyond and thought it was a natural path,” Gracie said. “But we’ve realized the importance of professional technical education and want to encourage more students to pursue that path, especially if they don’t fit a traditional college mold.”

Gracie has been involved in community activities since the couple first moved to North Idaho in 1979. She learned the importance of community involvement from her mother, who was a member of the Junior League, garden club, symphony society and played many roles in her church.

“She was even on the welcome committee at her retirement home,” Gracie laughs. “It was understood that service was an important part of life and being a member of the community.”

The Lusks like giving through ICF because of the performance of ICF’s investment pool, which includes gifts of all sizes from thousands of donors.

“Those pooled funds allow all of us to have a greater impact than if we were investing and granting on our own,” Clark said.

They also like that ICF is experienced in grantmaking, has a statewide board and represents the needs of each region of the state. They look forward to being able to share their spirit of giving and community service with their three young grandchildren.

“North Idaho is gorgeous and it’s the greatest community in the world,” Gracie said. “Everyone does their part to support our schools, nonprofits and other organizations. It’s amazing!”