



# Create Your Legacy

*Where Your Legacy of Preservation Begins*

SPRING 2016

Photo by Peter L. Buranzon

## HER LEGACY OF LOVE

*How Mary Lois Made the Redwoods Part of Her Life Story*

**F**rom the very beginning, like a magnificent redwood reaching to the sky, Mary Lois grew steady and strong, always aspiring to do more and be more.

A skilled surgeon, a Catholic nun, world traveler, and a philanthropist – these are just a few of the remarkable accomplishments that describe her. With her passion for the environment inspiring her, Mary Lois made the timeless redwoods part of her legacy when she set up her special legacy gift of one million dollars to Save the Redwoods League. The trees had become rooted in her life story at a significant turning point, connecting her with nature and reenergizing her for the next phase.

Hiking into a grove of redwoods, with birds circling in flight under the canopy of foliage, she would feel a calm descend. And in the immense, enveloping quiet, the chorus of eternity would begin. Mary Lois would say it's like entering a cathedral.

Growing up in Cincinnati, Mary Lois was a bright girl who loved science, an interest nurtured by her father, an inventor and businessman. Full of curiosity and promise, her love of learning took her to Trinity College, the

***Mary Lois made the timeless redwoods part of her legacy when she set up her special legacy gift***

University of Cincinnati, where she graduated summa cum laude in 1949 and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and then began graduate studies at the University of Florida. A chance encounter led her to change everything. Joining the Medical Mission Sisters in 1956, she attended



Mary Lois Jung became a Redwood Legacy Circle member when she wrote the League into her trust. Now, she will be remembered for her love of the redwoods.



Women's Medical College in Philadelphia and became a surgeon. Over a 30-year career, she served in Pakistan, Micronesia, St. Lucia, and Papua New Guinea. It was rewarding, gratifying work, and she loved it.

In the late 1980s, she left the order feeling called to a different life. She returned to the states, bought a camper van, and traveled across the country where she found herself in a redwood forest. **Being in the presence of the majestic, magnificent redwoods standing in silent purpose is where Mary Lois took the time contemplate the last few decades of her life overseas and discern for her new calling.**

She finally settled down in New Jersey, on the Atlantic shore, where her home was landscaped to provide a refuge for migratory birds and she offered hospitality all year long to her extensive network of family and friends, especially her adult nieces and nephews who had grown up while she was away. Though far from the redwoods, she continued to support Save the Redwoods League as a loyal annual donor.

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## Plan Now for a High-impact Tax Break for 2016

A high impact tax break.” That’s how the Wall Street Journal describes the charitable IRA rollover giving opportunity.

If you’re looking for a high-impact tax break while also preserving the redwoods for generations to come, consider making a 2016 IRA rollover gift to Save the Redwoods League.

### THE BENEFITS:

- Avoid paying tax on your required minimum distribution this year. The distribution will not count as taxable income for 2016, helping keep you in a lower tax bracket.
- The transfer is not subject to limitations on itemized deductions.
- Enjoy a quick and easy estate tax reduction.
- Protect our redwood forests and preserve them for generations to come.

### TO QUALIFY:

- You must be 70½ years old or older by year-end.
- The distribution must be directly to Save the Redwoods League from your plan trustee.
- The maximum contribution amount in 2016 is \$100,000 (\$200,000 per couple).
- Your transfer must be executed by December 31, 2016.

It’s that easy. If you have questions or would like help setting up your Charitable IRA Rollover, get in touch with Sharon Rabichow at [SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org](mailto:SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org) or (415) 820-5828 or. Notifying us of your intention allows us to provide you the proper tax acknowledgement required by the IRS. ■



Photo by Jon Parmentier

### CONTINUED FROM COVER

Her thoughtful legacy gift also made her a member of the Redwood Legacy Circle, a special group of friends whose gifts through their estate plans help ensure the future of our redwood forests.

In 2009, declining health led her back to her hometown, where she passed away peacefully on September 25, 2015 at the age of 88. Save the Redwoods League is deeply honored by Mary Lois’ gift which will have a profound impact on redwood conservation and will extend the legacy she cared so deeply about – saving the magnificent redwood forest for generations to come. ■

### CREATE YOUR LASTING LEGACY.

**You’re in control of your redwood legacy. Here’s where you can:**

- Discover gifts that pay you income
- Explore gifts that cost you nothing now
- Dedicate a redwood grove
- Request free estate planning guides
- Read inspiring stories of Redwood Legacy Circle members

**TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT [WWW.MYREDWOODSLEGACY.ORG](http://WWW.MYREDWOODSLEGACY.ORG)**



## Redwood Legacy Circle Members Go Hiking

These special redwood hikes are one of several events the League holds every year to honor our Redwood Legacy Circle members who have made a legacy gift that will protect and preserve redwoods for years to come. A recent hike was led by our Education and Interpretation Manager to showcase the League's Phenology Plot, discuss the League's work, and connect new generations of redwood caretakers to the forest.

To find out about the benefits of membership in the Redwood Legacy Circle and the lasting impact you can make on protecting redwoods, please visit [www.myredwoodslegacy.org/redwood-legacy-circle](http://www.myredwoodslegacy.org/redwood-legacy-circle).

## You Can Make a Lasting Impact with a Gift that Costs You Nothing Now

It's easy to create your legacy and protect the redwoods for generations to come. You can do it with a gift that costs you nothing now, and all it takes is writing the League into your will or trust. No gift is too small—even modest bequests add up to big impact for the redwoods. Here's the exact language to use in your will to ensure that your gift will be used to preserve the redwoods, exactly as you intend:

"I give, devise and bequeath to Save the Redwoods League located at 111 Sutter Street 11th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104, whose tax ID is 94-0843915

Choose:

- 1) the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_."
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ shares of stock in \_\_\_\_\_ Company.", or
- 3) my real property commonly known as \_\_\_\_\_."

If you have questions or would like to find out more, get in touch with Sharon Rabichow, Director of Gift Planning, at (415) 820-5828 or [SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org](mailto:SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org).



Legacy Circle members on an April hike in the redwood forest to learn more about the League's work.

**Thank you! Your generosity makes our work possible.**

*To read about the impact people like you have made on protecting and restoring the redwood forests, please visit **SaveTheRedwoods.org***



## Benefits of Belonging: Join the Redwood Legacy Circle

When you make Save the Redwoods League a part of your legacy and your life story, you ensure that future generations will be inspired by these magnificent forests, just like you have been. Membership in the Redwood Legacy Circle offers a variety of benefits, including the following:

- You will be recognized in our publications and at our events unless you wish to remain anonymous.
- You will receive the beautiful coffee table book *Coast Redwoods, A Natural and Cultural History*.
- You will receive invitations to special members-only events, such as our annual reception and our popular redwood tours.

To find out more about the Redwood Legacy Circle and view a list of Legacy Circle members, visit [www.myredwoodslegacy.org/redwood-legacy-circle](http://www.myredwoodslegacy.org/redwood-legacy-circle).



Photo by Paolo Vescia



### Create Your Redwood Legacy. We're Here to Help.

If you'd like to speak with us about creating your legacy with Save the Redwoods League, we invite you to get in touch.

#### Sharon Rabichow

Director of Gift Planning

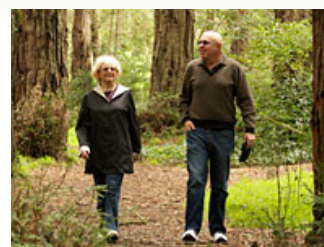
(415) 820-5828

[SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org](mailto:SRabichow@SaveTheRedwoods.org)

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO LEARN MORE

If you would like to review information about the kinds of legacy gifts available, generating income for life, reducing your taxes, and more, please visit us at [www.myredwoodslegacy.org](http://www.myredwoodslegacy.org).

*"The redwoods showed me the outdoors in a way I'd never seen before. I was just awestruck when I saw how big they are and how beautiful they are. We don't have children, so a lot of our money is going to organizations we care about. What the League does and the way they do it really rings a bell for us. They get results."*



Redwood Legacy Circle members  
Marcia and Jim Allegretti