Dr. Lew Mitchell: More Than One Way to Give

Thursdays can’t come soon enough. That’s when Dr. George Lewis “Lew” Mitchell, Jr. (’73) makes the drive every week from Gadsden to instruct UAB School of Dentistry students in the comprehensive care clinic. “I love interacting with students. They really energize me,” Mitchell says. “They’re all bright and smart. They just need some experience. The most honorable job at the school is being a clinic floor instructor.”

After graduating from the School of Dentistry, Mitchell worked in the U.S. Public Service for the Coast Guard in New Jersey. He later moved to Gadsden, Ala., where he has practiced for nearly forty years. He plans to retire from his practice in 2014, allowing time for Mitchell and his wife, Anne, to spend more time with their two children and five grandchildren.

Mitchell has given his time to organized dentistry all of his professional life. He served as President of the Alabama Dental Alumni Association in 1988. His other leadership positions included ALDA President, Alabama AGD President, a Delegate to the American Dental Association, and twenty years serving as an Alabama Dental Advisory Board Member. “I have the same feelings for all of organized dentistry,” says Mitchell, the 2012 Fuller Award winner. “I have always felt obligated to give back to our profession. We need to set an example for the students and young dentists,” says Mitchell.

His giving doesn’t end with long hours of volunteerism. He and Anne have financially supported several school fundraising initiatives. A couple of years ago he underwent hip surgery, and that experience caused him to think about the future…and the future of the state’s only dental school. “We hadn’t updated our will in more than twenty years. The future for dental education will be fraught with tough economic times. As an alumnus, I feel obligated to help my school maintain its hard earned reputation, so we made gifts to several school endowment funds. We changed our will to include the school and other charities near and dear to us. It was simple.”

Mitchell has missed only one Alumni Weekend since returning to Alabama years ago. “The Dental School and Alumni Association mean so much to me,” he says. “We are family. When family needs help, you help them out. I hope our estate gift will motivate my colleagues to include the school in their wills. After my family and church, the University of Alabama School of Dentistry is the most important thing in my life.” He believes others feel the same way and adds that changing his will was very easy.

If you would like to include the dental school in your will or other estate plan, please contact J. Scott Huffman, CFRE, Executive Director of Development, at (205) 934-3601 or shuffman@uab.edu.

INSIDE

- Tidying Up Your Year-End Plans: Small Moves That Can Pay Off
- Estate Planning Clean-Up Guide
Tidying Up Your Year-End Plans
Small Moves That Can Pay Off

The end of the year is an opportune time to be tax-savvy with your finances. By having a plan in place to protect your wealth with valuable and often overlooked tax deductions, you can help eliminate the tax bite in 2012. Following are three moves you can make this year to help reduce the potential tax hit or even boost your income while receiving a tax break.

1. Make an Immediate Cash Gift
   When you support our mission with a simple donation of cash, you not only make a difference, but you also receive a tax deduction. If you itemize, you can write off the amount you’re donating, resulting in lower taxable income. If you are unsure whether your gift is tax-deductible, you can always check with us.

2. Benefit From a Life Income Gift
   Whether you’re still working or retired, you may decide after assessing your finances that you need more income. Consider setting up a life income gift to benefit a charitable organization such as ours. In exchange for your gift of cash, securities or possibly real estate, you can receive income for life. Plus, you get a partial charitable tax deduction the year you make the gift. After your lifetime or once the payment period ends, the remaining value of your gift goes to us.

3. Provide Support Using A Tax-Smart Strategy
   If you give us property that you have owned for more than a year that has increased in value, you pay no capital gains tax on the transaction and you are entitled to a charitable deduction for its full fair market value.

   If the property’s value is now below your original purchase price, however, you should sell it to take a capital loss to the extent allowed by law and then donate the cash to us. This helps reduce your taxable estate.

Contact us to learn more about smart ways to support our mission this year while providing tax benefits for yourself.
Remember Your Estate Plans...

Year-end tax planning prompts many people to also assess their estate plans. You’ll want to pay particular interest to your plans if you experience:

- Major life events, such as a change in marital status, births or deaths.
- A rise or fall in income or net worth.
- A move to another state, as each state has its own laws about valid wills.

When going over your estate plans, be sure to take advantage of immediate ways to reduce your taxable estate using the following methods:

- Use your annual gift-tax exclusion. You can give your children or grandchildren gifts of cash or stock, and as long as you keep the value of the gift at or below $13,000 ($26,000 for gifts you split with your spouse) per recipient, there will be no tax on the gift.
- You can also pay certain medical bills and tuition fees for someone else—as long as you pay the hospital or schools directly for the incurred costs.

Thank You!
Your donations—large and small—make a big difference in our ability to carry out our mission.

FREE Guide!
Many gifts offer tax benefits in addition to the heartfelt satisfaction that comes from giving at year-end. To learn more, send for the FREE guide *Top 5 Year-End Gift Ideas* by returning your enclosed survey.

The information in this publication is not intended as legal advice. For legal advice, please consult an attorney. Figures cited in examples are for hypothetical purposes only and are subject to change. Reference to income and income gains include federal taxes only. State taxes, local taxes, and other factors may impact your results.
Estate Planning Clean-Up Guide

It’s easy to know when to renew your driver’s license or credit card—just look at the expiration date on the card—but what about your estate planning documents? Everyone, regardless of whether you are rich or poor, young or old, should have these three essential documents and keep them current.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>What It Is</th>
<th>Where to Keep It</th>
<th>When to Update It</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will/Living trust</td>
<td>Directs your trustee or personal representative on how to distribute your estate</td>
<td>In a fireproof emergency kit; give a copy to your personal representative</td>
<td>Every 3–5 years or immediately after:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• A move to a different state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• A change in beneficiary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• An ample change in estate size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durable power of attorney</td>
<td>Allows someone of your choice to carry out financial matters for you in the event of your illness or disability</td>
<td>In a fireproof emergency kit; give a copy to the person you appointed</td>
<td>If your relationship with this person changes or if this person predeceases you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care proxy and living will</td>
<td>Names an individual to make health care decisions if you become unable to do so</td>
<td>Give copies of the form to your health care providers and the person you chose in the proxy</td>
<td>If your relationship with this person changes or if this person predeceases you</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action List: What You Can Do Today**

- **Request** the FREE guide *Top 5 Year-End Gift Ideas* by returning the enclosed 30-second survey.
- **Visit** our website to learn more about our programs and how you can make a difference.
- **Contact us** if you have any questions about supporting the School of Dentistry today or in the future.

---

**UAB DENTISTRY**

**Leading Oral Health Care**

SDB 214, 1530 3rd Ave. S.
Birmingham, AL 35294-0007
Phone: (205) 934-3601
Fax: (205) 934-9740

J. Scott Huffman, CFRE
Executive Director of Development
Email: shuffman@uab.edu
Web: www.dental.uab.edu
www.uab.edu/plannedgiving

---

**Dr. Charles A. McCallum, Jr.**
Planned Giving Society

**Members**
- Dr. Walter Andrews
- Dr. William and Sue Beall
- Dr. Mary Lynne Capilouto
- Dr. Lori M. Gearhart
- Dr. Margaret Klapper*
- Dr. Randall Lafler*
- Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Linthicum*
- Dr. George Lewis Mitchell, Jr.
- Dr. James Staats
- Dr. Frank Williams, Jr.*
- Dr. and Mrs. William Wright* (deceased)