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## **Dr. James and Mrs. Lois Evans Pledge Record Individual Gift to Lindenwood**

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## Dr. James and Mrs. Lois Evans Pledge Record Individual Gift to Lindenwood

**September 15, 2025**



President Emeritus Dr. James Evans, and former First Lady Mrs. Lois A. Evans, have been impacting the Lindenwood University for more than four decades. This summer, the Evans' made a transformative gift commitment that will benefit many future generations.

In their estate plan, the Evans will gift 90 percent of their estate to Lindenwood University. This unrestricted gift marks the largest, individual contribution made in support of students and employees at the University.

“We are deeply honored by the extraordinary, planned gift from Dr. and Mrs. Evans. Their enduring commitment to the students of Lindenwood, and serving our mission, is a powerful testament to their vision of education,” Lindenwood President Dr. John R. Porter said. “This gift will strengthen our institution for generations to come and inspire others to invest in the power of higher education.”

Dr. Evans was hired as an assistant professor of psychology in 1974. Over his remarkable career, he served as a faculty member, academic administrator, and provost, before being named president in 2006. His leadership pushed the institution to new milestones, recruiting top-notch faculty, introducing the University's first doctoral program, and making marked improvements to the campus infrastructure. His commitment to Lindenwood University's athletic department paved the way for its application to NCAA status, and he was inducted into the Lindenwood Sports Hall of Fame in 2012. As a Past President and Professor Emeritus, Dr. Evans impacted countless lives and supported brighter futures for students.

By his side was the faithful guidance and counsel of his wife, Lois. She was a committed First Lady known for her warmth and kindness. A talented educator, she specialized in

gifted education, and an award named in her honor is presented to a Lindenwood graduate student each year at Honors Convocation.

In addition, the Evanses have established and funded several scholarships and awards including the LeRoy and Charlotte Evans First-Generation Student Scholarship and the Charlotte G. Evans Psychology Award.

“Through a lifetime of generosity and a transformative planned gift, Dr. and Mrs. Evans have created a legacy that will continue to shape the future of Lindenwood University for generations,” Vice President of Advancement and Community Engagement Orrie Covert said. “We look forward to honoring their extraordinary commitment with a special recognition event here on campus later this fall.”