



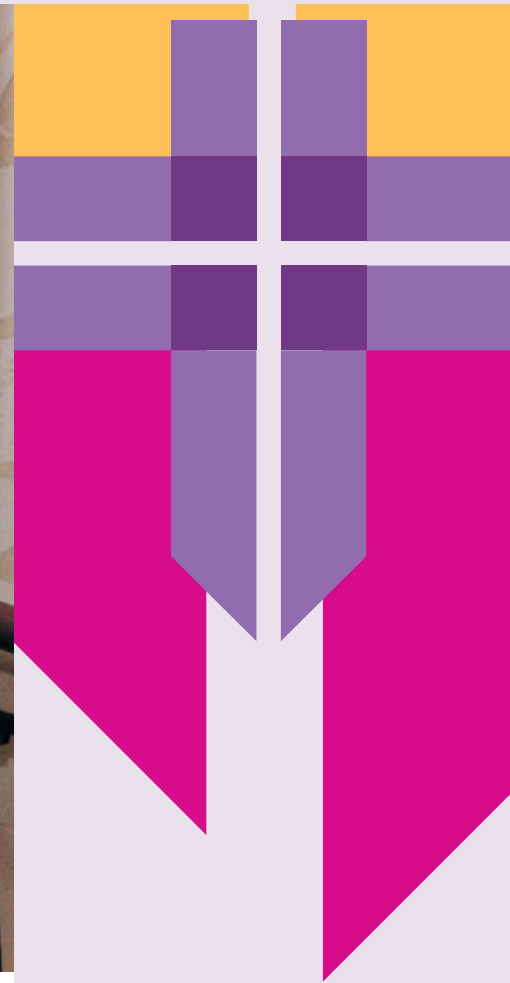
Bob and Suzanne Wright

Ellen Dubin

## Inspired to make a difference: Bob Wright '65

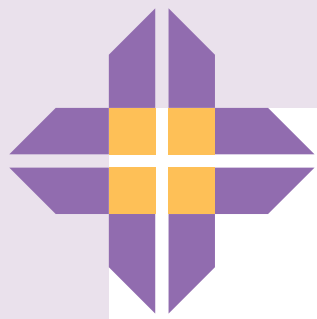
BY SARAH O'BRIEN MACKAY

**I**n both the triumphs and heartbreaks of his own life, Bob Wright '65 has found the inspiration to make a difference in the lives of others. After his grandson was diagnosed with autism in 2004, he turned what was a devastating moment into a new family mission, co-founding *Autism Speaks* with his wife, Suzanne. The non-profit organization raises funds to support research and help find a cure for the disease, which currently affects nearly 1.5 million children in the United States



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The Wrights with Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J.

alone. “Autism Speaks was born out of a single family’s experience—our experience—but its goal is to give a voice to an entire community, to every family dealing with the hardships of autism,” Wright says.

While giving voice to the millions of families struggling with autism, the Wrights are also providing an opportunity to outstanding young men of modest means who wish to attend Holy Cross. They recently endowed

the *Suzanne and Bob Wright Scholarship Fund*, which makes a Holy Cross education possible for high-achieving, highly regarded students from Wright’s alma mater, Chaminade High School, in Mineola, N.Y.

An all-boys Catholic high school, Chaminade is named in honor of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade (1761–1850), founder of the Society of Mary, Marianists. Wright said that attending Chaminade had a

profound influence on his life and his decision to pursue a Catholic college education. In fact, he said, it was guidance counselors at Chaminade who directed him toward Holy Cross.

“Suzanne and I feel very fortunate that we are able to make a Holy Cross education possible for the brightest students at Chaminade,” says Wright. “Both schools offer rigorous academic programs

“

I CAN'T SAY ENOUGH HOW PROUD I AM TO BE PART OF HOLY CROSS. ... OUR MISSION TRULY MAKES A *difference* IN THE WORLD. HOLY CROSS IS AS VITAL A COLLEGE AS THERE IS IN OUR COUNTRY TODAY. ”

BOB WRIGHT '65

and place special emphasis on service to others. Throughout my life, I have drawn inspiration from both my Chaminade and Holy Cross educations.”

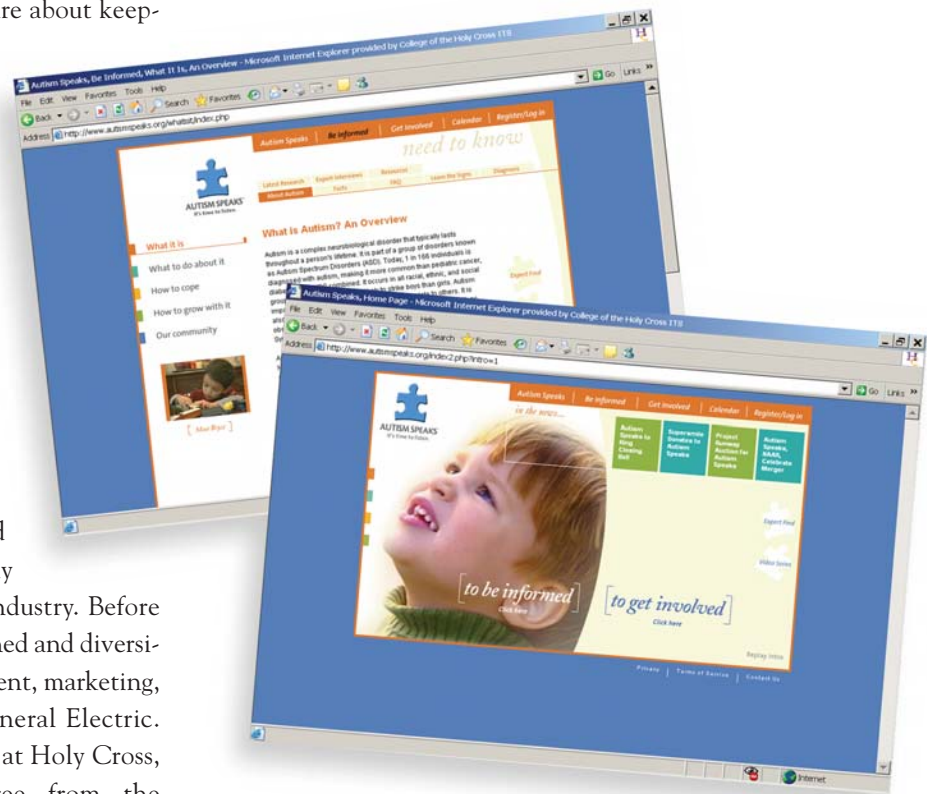
“Bob and Suzanne Wright have made a wonderful contribution to Holy Cross and to the many students who will be able to come here because of the Wright scholarship,” says Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., president of Holy Cross. “Their generosity serves as an inspiration to all of us who care about keeping the doors of Holy Cross open to the most deserving students, regardless of their families’ financial circumstances.”

Chairman and chief executive officer of NBC Universal, Wright also serves as vice chairman and executive officer of NBC’s parent company, General Electric. Joining NBC as president and CEO in 1986, he has had one of the longest and most successful tenures of any top executive in the media industry. Before NBC, Wright had a distinguished and diversified career spanning management, marketing, and law, much of it with General Electric. After majoring in psychology at Holy Cross, he received his law degree from the University of Virginia.

An active and generous philanthropist, Wright serves on the board of trustees of the American Film Institute and the Museum of Television and Radio, and on the board of directors of the Motion Picture and Television Fund Corporation and the Cancer Research Fund of the Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Foundation. A member of the Society of New York Hospital Inc., he is on the board of governors of New York Presbyterian Hospital. Married since 1967,

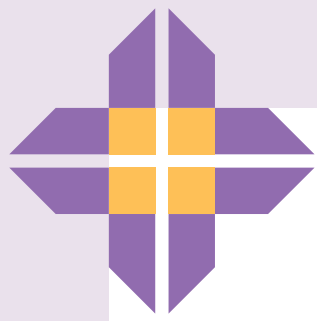
the Wrights live in Fairfield, Conn.; they have three children and four grandchildren.

A Holy Cross Trustee for the past 15 years, Wright is also a member of the New York Regional Campaign Committee for the *Lift High the Cross* campaign. As alumnus, Trustee, volunteer and benefactor, he has had a unique vantage point from which to view Holy Cross’ aspirations and achievements during the past 40 years.



“I can’t say enough how proud I am to be part of Holy Cross,” Wright says. “The students here are highly motivated and achievement-oriented, and our mission truly makes a difference in the world. Holy Cross is as vital a college as there is in our country today.”

SARAH O’BIEN MACKEY is a freelance writer from Cambridge, Mass.



## ■ THE TIES THAT BIND

BY SARAH O'BRIEN MACKAY

Ask John Duffy '82 about his four years at Holy Cross, and he will tell you that, for him, they were as much a love story as a college experience. During the second week of his first year, Duffy met Patricia Galligan '82—and, by second semester, the two were inseparable. They have been together ever since.

“Without a doubt, the most important part of my Holy Cross experience was meeting Tricia,” says Duffy. “By our senior year, everyone thought of us as an old married couple ... I guess they were right!”

It wasn't until their second year that Peter Hill '82 and Patricia McGovern '82 met, but theirs, too, has been a lasting love story—and one highlighted by many fond memories of their time at Holy Cross.

“Where to begin?” asks Patti Hill. “There was the Southside Johnny concert, road trips to Boston, the unforgettable 30-29 football victory over BC, and Sunday night Masses at St. Joseph Chapel.”

Classmates who eventually married, the Duffys and the Hills were also good friends at Holy Cross, bound together by a slew of intersecting ties. Tricia Duffy and Peter Hill were in the same economics study group; Patti Hill and Tricia Duffy lived in the same residence hall; and John Duffy and Peter Hill were roommates during their final year on the Hill.

Although they don't see each other as much today, the Duffys and the Hills are still bound in their affection for the College. John and Peter both work for JP Morgan in New

York—where John runs the Northeast division of JP Morgan Private Bank and Peter heads JP Morgan's U.S. municipal finance business. Because their offices are located across the street from each other, they usually catch up on the run.

It was during one such chance meeting that the two former room-

courtesy of Patricia and John Duffy '82



Patricia (Galligan) Duffy '82 and husband John Duffy '82

mates began talking about the *Lift High the Cross* campaign. “At the time, I hadn’t really thought about making a major commitment,” recalls Duffy, “but talking to Peter made me think more precisely about the debt I owe to Holy Cross. Both Tricia and I believe that the Jesuits do a uniquely superb job of providing an academically rigorous education that has a real impact on students’ lives. We see giving to Holy Cross as a way of perpetuating those values.”

“Holy Cross opened our minds as well as many doors of opportunity for us,” says Patti Hill. “Our experience there was such a positive one—in many ways life-changing—that we feel we would not be where we are today without it. We wanted to help the College provide a similar experience to new generations of Crusaders, and to help deserving students with the ability, but perhaps not the financial means, to attend Holy Cross.”

Both the Duffys and the Hills regard their recent campaign gifts as expressions of the Jesuit tradition of service to others. “The thing that drew me to Holy Cross—and that I will always cherish—was the concept

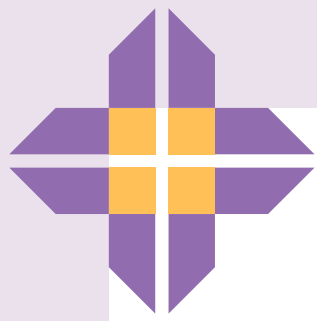


courtesy of Peter and Patricia Hill '82

left to right: Brian, Patti, Sheila, Peter, Lindsay and Kevin Hill

of men and women for others,” says Duffy. “I think it was also a big part of what Tricia and I saw in each other, and it still rings true in our lives today.”

SARAH O’BRIEN MACKEY *is a freelance writer from Cambridge, Mass.*



Dan Vaillancourt

Dec. 8, 2005 at Holy Cross: Appropriately held during the season of giving, the Holiday Reception honoring scholarship donors and award recipients affords an opportunity for benefactors and students to meet. (From top to bottom, left to right): Ann Marie Connolly '74 and Caitlin Welch '07; Sarah Tagg '08 and Brian McNeill '77; Helen Lucier, Shannon Bush '06, Maureen Glowik P09, 05, and Jean Glowik; Robert Nixon '84, Christopher Smith '08, Julia Nixon '84; Kerry Kennedy-McBride, Caitlin Powell '08, Daniel McBride '84; Christopher Kelly '82, Molly Cook '09, Shirley Kelly '83; and Barron Cashdollar, Mary McCann Cashdollar P94, Thomas Carson '08, Julia Gentile McCann '94, Winifred Gentile P94



### CLASS OF 2001 TAKES OVER STOCK EXCHANGE

Feb. 23, 2006: Forty-five members of the Class of 2001 gathered for a get-ready-for reunion cocktail party on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. (From top to bottom and left to right): Greg Formato and Dave Galalis; the group; Melissa Jangl, Devon Broderick and Jackie Furst; Mike Dowling and Mollie Cura; Ryan Hayward, David Jordan and Shauna McLoughlin Stecker; Anne Uba, Amanda Guarino, Allison Lurker and Jacquelyn Andrade



Mel Nudeman