In honor of their family, Javon R. and Vita E. Bea established the Bea Family Endowment for Medical Studies in 2005. Javon, who has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in health care, is president and chief executive officer of Mercy Health System in Janesville, Wisconsin. At Notre Dame, he is a member of the Advisory Council for the College of Science and serves as an adjunct professor for the Department of Management. He is also a guest speaker for the Executive MBA program.

As a business consultant, Vita works with Javon to bring forward-thinking health care strategies to a national audience. She is also a dedicated mother to the couple’s six children. Their oldest daughter, Sara, who was severely and multiply handicapped, passed away in 2003. Rebecca (’00), who has a master’s degree in hospital and health care administration from the University of Minnesota, works as an administrator at Mercy Health System. Maria (’02) is currently in medical school at the University of Minnesota. Joanna (’09) is studying in the School of Architecture at Notre Dame, while Theresa is a member of the Class of 2010. The Bea’s youngest child, Javon Daniel, hopes to attend the University in the future.

The Bea Family Endowment for Medical Studies allows the libraries to provide information resources to students, faculty, and researchers engaged in cutting-edge scientific and medical inquiry at all academic levels. In addition to this endowment, Javon and Vita have established the Sara Bea Learning Center for Students with Disabilities on campus.