Many Catholic and educational institutions can thank the Hoeck family of Louisville, Kentucky, for their generosity. John L. Hoeck ('48) is chairman of the board of United Mercantile Agencies, Inc., where he has worked since 1948 — the same year he joined his current parish, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, where he has held several leadership positions.

John was the first lay member of the Saint Xavier High School board of directors, serving in that capacity for 41 years. He is a graduate of Saint Xavier and has continually given back with time and financial support. John has also been involved with the Archdiocese of Louisville, Assumption High School, Bellarmine University, Little Sisters of the Poor, Sacred Heart Academy, the University of Louisville, Fund for the Arts, United Way, and Spalding University, on whose board of directors he serves.

John is also very generous to Notre Dame and has served on the Advisory Council for the Hesburgh Libraries since 1982.

John and his wife, Ruth Anne, have three children: Gregory ('72), Joan, and Beverly.

Unrestricted endowment funds allow the Hesburgh Libraries the flexibility to support the mission of the University of Notre Dame and to react immediately and effectively as its academic offerings evolve and develop. With ongoing support from the John L. Hoeck General Library Endowment, the Hesburgh Libraries are able to continue to deepen and expand offerings, enhancing the scholarship of the Notre Dame community. The Hoeck Endowment is allowing Notre Dame to offer unparalleled access to digitized collections, electronic subscriptions to the leading professional journals, and cutting-edge services that assist students, faculty, and researchers and enrich the breadth of their learning, teaching, and research.