After graduating from Notre Dame, the late Thomas Mahaffey Jr. (’33) entered the family business, Consolidated Finance Corporation, with his father and brother. In 1962, he started a new family venture, the Mahaffey Company, which developed rental apartment communities of more than 12,000 units in central Florida and Indianapolis, Indiana, with his sons, James and Mark (’66). He has been called the patriarch of Florida developers.

Tom and his wife, Jane, had two sons, two daughters, and 18 grandchildren. He was an avid fisherman, a racing greyhound owner, and a Life Master duplicate tournament bridge player. He attributed his self-discipline to Knute Rockne, for whom he played football at Notre Dame.

The Hesburgh Libraries established the innovative, all-electronic Thomas Mahaffey Jr. Business Information Center to support the undergraduate curriculum, existing and emerging graduate programs, and faculty research in the Mendoza College of Business. The state-of-the-art Mahaffey Center includes individual workstations, group-learning areas (all providing handicapped access and audio-visual equipment for instructional support), and adjacent offices (also electronically equipped) for personnel.

In providing access to and instruction in the use of a broad range of bibliographic, numerical, full-text, and graphic databases in business and related disciplines, the information navigators of the center identify and acquire relevant databases, develop prototypes for cutting-edge methods to harness the wealth of electronic information resources, and optimize their utility for teaching and research at the University.