It was Bill Fallon (’37) who first sparked Mike Mallardi’s interest in Notre Dame, bringing him to campus when he was just 15 years old. Mike, valedictorian of his high school class, was prevented from attending college on an athletic scholarship because of an injury sustained during his senior year. It was too late for Mike to apply for an academic scholarship, so Bill sponsored Mike for Notre Dame’s New York Alumni Club Scholarship and arranged for on-campus employment at the Hesburgh Library to supplement the partial scholarship. Mike graduated magna cum laude in 1956.

He went on to serve for a year with the Army before beginning his career in broadcasting at ABC, Inc. In 1986, he was named president of the Broadcast Group upon ABC’s merger with Capital Cities. Currently retired, Mike has served on the boards of several industry and charitable organizations, including Notre Dame’s Advisory Council for the College of Arts and Letters. He and his wife, Sylvia, whom he has known since the first grade, have two daughters, Karen and Stephanie.

The Mallardi Endowment allows the Hesburgh Libraries to make progress despite changing environmental factors, escalating costs of print and electronic information, and the necessity of training and retraining library personnel to keep them on the cutting edge of the information curve.