The Herb and Maxine Thyen Family General Endowment

The six Thyen children established the Herb and Maxine Thyen Family General Endowment as a tribute to their parents. The late Herb Thyen, one of the founders of Kimball International, Inc., also served as executive vice president and secretary of the company. From 1932 until 1950, Herb was employed by Jasper Wood Products Corporation in Jasper, Indiana. He was a director of Spring Valley Bank and Trust and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

The Thyens’ oldest son, Ron ('59), initiated the endowment. He and his wife, Mary Jane, still live in Jasper, as do John and Marilyn Thyen, Jim and Pat Thyen, and Carol Thyen Haas and her husband, Charles. Mike and Janet Thyen live in nearby Carmel, Indiana. Mary Sue Thyen Gates ('77) and her husband, Tom, live in Wilmette, Illinois.

In times of rising costs and expanding collection, service, and programmatic needs, endowments such as the Herb and Maxine Thyen Family General Endowment serve as a lifeline that allows the Hesburgh Libraries to meet their goals in supporting the academic programs of Notre Dame. The Thyen Endowment allows the libraries to respond to specific and changing research needs, provide online and optical disc databases, and advance emerging disciplines and newly established programs.