John and Carl Vuono established the Vuono Family Endowment for Italian Literature and Culture in honor of their parents, Carl and Rose Vuono of Monongahela, Pennsylvania. The endowment recognizes the pervasive cultural influence of their ancestral home on western civilization, particularly in the United States.

John A. Vuono ('54, ’55 JD) is a senior partner in the law firm of Vuono and Gray, LLC, in Pittsburgh. In 1956, he received a master of laws degree from the University of Pennsylvania. John has served on the Advisory Council for the Notre Dame Law School since 1993. He and his wife, Linda, live in Nevillewood, Pennsylvania. He has five children, all Notre Dame graduates: Mark ('77), Marty ('81), Carl ('84), Karen ('88), and Louise ('95 JD).

General Carl E. Vuono (Ret.) is a 1957 graduate of West Point. He served the nation with distinction for more than 34 years, culminating in his tenure as the Army’s 31st Chief of Staff, leading Operations Just Cause (Panama) and Desert Storm. Carl remains widely acknowledged as one of the principal architects of the trained and ready U.S. Army. He is currently president and chief operating officer of L-3 Communications Services Group and president of MPRI, Inc. He and his wife, Pat, have three children, two of whom are Notre Dame graduates, Tim ('85) and Jeff ('88). Both sons are serving in the U.S. Army and have commanded battalions in Iraq.

The Vuono Endowment supports the study of Italian at Notre Dame, where it is the second most popular foreign language among students. The collection includes reference materials on Dante, Petrarch, medieval and Renaissance poetry, and 19th-century authors; databases that facilitate research; and rare books and manuscripts.

The Vuono family also supports a Named endowment.