Robert J. “Bud” Williams (’49) earned a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering. He resides in Troy, Michigan, and Phoenix, Arizona. Bud is the president of Cadillac Products, Inc., a manufacturer of flexible packaging products founded by his father, Michael, in 1942. He is also a member of Notre Dame’s Advisory Council for the Hesburgh Libraries. Bud has six children, two of whom are Notre Dame graduates: Robert (’74) and Claire (’88).

In 1984, Bud established the Williams Library Collection in memory of his parents, Michael and Lyle Williams. It was only the fifth endowed collection at Notre Dame. Because it supports acquisitions in the ethical aspects of business and materials that explore the relationship of this topic to sociology, religion, government, and many other subject areas, the Williams Endowment assures that Notre Dame’s emphasis on values is reflected in the libraries’ collections. Some very strong additions to the Audio Learning Center have been made via the Williams Endowment, among them a number of Public Broadcasting Service videos about questionable business practices and the savings and loan controversy.