



Your 50th Reunion Gift Matters

The VMI experience is one that follows alumni for the rest of their lives. The education, the friendships and the memories endure long into the lives of VMI alumni after their time in barracks has passed. It is part of what makes VMI such a special place. As a cadet, your memories were benchmarked by matriculation, Breakout, Ring Figure and graduation. As alumni, you might remember the first time you leveraged the VMI network in your professional life, or maybe you recall the first time you came back to post for your five-year reunion. Perhaps there are other seminal events that parallel your time in barracks. For many, however, the most significant moment as alumni is when they return to VMI to participate in their 50th Reunion. Each year, members of the honored 50-year reunion class come back to post to celebrate the experiences they shared many years ago. VMI provides a wonderful education, extraordinary leadership opportunities and enduring relationships with BRs, mentors, professors and coaches. The 50th Reunion allows alumni to look back on everything that VMI has provided them while also reflecting on the legacy they would like to leave behind for the cadets who will sign the matriculation book in the years to come.

“VMI has given us more than we could ever repay. It’s important to give back in honor of our reunion for that simple reason. How many of us can look ourselves in the mirror and say that we would be who we are today without our experience at VMI? In one way or another, VMI made us who we are, and with our support, it will continue to maintain and improve its status as one of our nation’s finest institutions for higher education.”

– Ralph Costen, Class of 1970 50th Reunion Co-Chair

What Counts?

- All cash gifts or pledges since the class’s 45th Reunion to be fulfilled within five years of the 50th Reunion
- Any gift or pledge to an endowed fund since the 25th Reunion that was not attributed to the 25th Reunion class gift
- Planned or deferred commitments not already counted since the class’s 25th Reunion

Class	Participation %	Overall Class Giving Total
1967	81%	\$22,661,934
1968	77%	\$14,021,054
1969	86%	\$10,262,515

Making Five-Year Pledges

Five-year pledges are a great way to make an impactful gift in honor of your reunion.

- All five years of pledged support count towards your class reunion gift.



- “Set it and forget it” – you can set up a recurring payment plan to pay on your pledge annually, semi-annually, monthly – choose the interval that works best for you.
- Pledges help VMI plan by beginning each year knowing what resources will be available and how much ground the development team needs to cover.

Stretch Your Support with a Planned Gift

Pledges and cash gifts mean a lot to the fundraising efforts for a 50th Reunion, but planned gifts allow donors to make a transformative impact on VMI. A planned gift may be in the form of a bequest, a gift annuity, a trust, a gift of real estate or a life insurance policy. All such gifts demand careful thought and planning before donors choose the vehicle(s) that fit within their estate plans. The VMI Foundation is ready to help you strategize your planned gift, but also strongly encourages donors to consult with their own financial advisors as well. **For specific questions regarding planned giving, please contact Terrie Conrad, CFRE and Vice President, Development & Estate Administration at tconrad@vmiaa.org.**

Method of Giving	Does it Count for 50 th Reunion?
Irrevocable and revocable remainder charitable trusts	✓
Gift annuities	✓
Life Insurance with VMI as owner/beneficiary	✓
Bequests	✓
Retirement Plan designation	✓
Charitable IRA rollover provisions	✓
Stocks and Bonds	✓
Real Estate	✓

Planned Giving Tax Considerations

- **Long-term appreciated stock, land and other assets: Avoid capital gains taxation and receive a charitable income tax deduction**
- **Gifts from IRA’s can be beneficial from a tax benefit standpoint**

If you have questions regarding 50th reunion giving, please contact TJ Lighton at tlighton@vmiaa.org.