Irving S. Wright Legacy Society
Your Legacy | Our Future
Dr. Irving S. Wright was a pioneer in aging research, who, at the age of 78, founded the American Federation for Aging Research. Dr. Wright had the foresight to realize that there would be a substantial age boom in the years ahead, yet scant resources devoted to biomedical research to support such a boom. Securing a greater commitment to the field of aging research would be key, providing financial support to encourage more scientists to enter the field and more geriatricians to care for an aging population.
Leaving a legacy of support to the American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR) allows you to combine charitable giving goals with estate and financial planning.

Your gift will make a lasting impact, allowing AFAR not only to fund programs that advance scientific research into the causes, treatments, and cures for age-related diseases, but also to build the pipeline of scientists and physicians whose research will help us all live healthier, longer.
The Irving S. Wright Legacy Society is an honorary society created to recognize and thank individuals who make a planned gift to AFAR.

As a member of the Society, you are entitled to special benefits:

- Invitations to AFAR’s special events and meetings
- Up-to-date information on new medical findings about living healthier, longer
- Recognition in AFAR’s annual report
- Special invitation to the Society’s annual luncheon
- Meetings with top scientists
As a member of the Irving S. Wright Legacy Society, you can choose to:

• direct your support to specific areas of research that look at the basic mechanisms of aging in diseases, such as Alzheimer’s disease, cardiovascular disease, or cancer

• allow AFAR to direct your support where research is most needed

• allocate your gift to the Irving S. Wright Endowment Fund

Once you inform AFAR of your planned gift, you are automatically enrolled as a member of the Society.
This information is not intended as tax, legal, or financial advice. Please consult your financial advisor regarding your situation.
AFAR offers planned giving arrangements that are feasible for donors of all income levels. Legacy gift options include:

**BEQUESTS**
A bequest in a will or living trust is the simplest way to make a planned gift and may qualify your estate for a charitable deduction. Property, cash, securities, or other tangible assets can be bequeatheded.

**RETIREMENT PLANS, LIFE INSURANCE**
Make AFAR the beneficiary of your retirement or life insurance plans. The beneficiary forms are easy to update and the gifts are free of estate and income tax.

**CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST**
A charitable remainder trust can offer tax savings, charitable deductions, and lifetime income while ultimately benefiting AFAR.

**RETAINED LIFE ESTATE**
You can deed your home to AFAR but keep the right to use the property during your lifetime. This qualifies you to receive a charitable tax deduction in the year the gift is made.
“Mary and I retired years ago from careers in law and business respectively. In addition to annual giving, we’ve long had bequests to AFAR in our wills to make sure that we could continue to support AFAR’s work in perpetuity.

I had the privilege of serving on AFAR’s board for some fourteen years and the honor of chairing the board for ten years, so I have firsthand knowledge of AFAR’s effectiveness and leadership in the field of aging research.
Research is a cumulative business, and AFAR’s strategy of advancing careers in aging research works: over 80% of researchers receiving AFAR grants remain in the field of aging research, and progress to leadership roles in the field. AFAR gives its donors more bang for the buck: AFAR’s endowment, built largely through bequests such as ours, helps to cover the annual administrative costs of running the organization.

Thus, donors to AFAR can be assured that their contributions go directly to grants and programs, not to overhead. AFAR’s long-serving and competent staff, although few in number, are simply the best in the business.”
Len had a long and distinguished career as Director of Public Affairs at Fort Monmouth in New Jersey, before retiring in 1977. At the age of 61, Len developed macular degeneration, the leading cause of vision loss and blindness among older adults. Because our aging population is increasing, vision loss from macular degeneration is a growing problem, which led him to begin supporting AFAR’s efforts to study the age-related causes behind this devastating disease.
“Leaving a bequest to AFAR is giving me a special opportunity to create a fund that will continue to support research in the field of macular degeneration. I am gratified to know that my gift will continue to make a difference even after I am gone.”
Diana’s professional career was in public relations, serving corporate and national non-profit organizations. She served on the AFAR Board of Directors for 16 years, six as Chair, and she is currently Chair Emeritus.
“Given the fact that we now live longer, it is critical that the scientific advancement of healthier aging continues to develop and receive support. During my tenure on the Board, I observed the organization’s strength in identifying and funding research talent through an outstanding peer review process. This process and its results are a major reason why I wish to provide for AFAR in my will. It is gratifying to know that my bequest will help AFAR continue its laudable work.”
“My AFAR grant was instrumental in building my research career, and I am honored to now serve on the AFAR Board of Directors and support AFAR’s work in advancing the field of biomedical research that they have led for more than three decades.”

— David Sinclair, Ph.D., 2000 AFAR Research Grant for Junior Faculty and Board Member; Professor, Harvard University Medical School

Since receiving an AFAR grant early in his research career, Dr. Sinclair has risen to be one of the most recognized aging researchers and innovators worldwide. He was named one of TIME magazine’s “100 Most Influential People” of 2014, and his insights have been featured on National Public Radio, The Washington Post, and Bloomberg News. At Harvard University, Dr. Sinclair is a Professor in the Department of Genetics and Co-Director of the Paul F. Glenn Center for the Biology of Aging.
The **American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR)** is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to support and advance healthy aging through biomedical research.

AFAR focuses on these major initiatives:

- Identifying and funding a broad range of cutting-edge research most likely to increase knowledge about healthy aging.
- Attracting more physicians to specialize in geriatric medicine to meet the demands of an aging population with expert health care.
- Creating opportunities for scientists and clinicians to share knowledge and exchange ideas to drive innovation in aging research.
- Providing information to the public on new medical findings that can help people live longer lives, less susceptible to disease and disability.

For more information, please visit [www.afar.org](http://www.afar.org) or contact us at [info@afar.org](mailto:info@afar.org)