

MONUMENTS OF THE GREAT

A private Christian university once had a significant benefactress, a woman who not only gave a substantial amount of funds, but also served the university as a member of its board of regents, and prayed diligently for the success of the university's students. She made several major bequests.

After the death of her first husband, she gave funds for a formal garden, which was named in her husband's honor. Then, after the death of her second husband, she gave funds for a student-union building, including a cafeteria, student-association offices, and meeting rooms; the facility bore her second husband's name.

From her own funds, she donated a multimillion-dollar chapel. The university desired to name it in her honor, but she would hear none of it. "It is Christ's Chapel," she said, and so it has remained – no less a monument to her faith even though future generations may never know her name.

Daniel Webster once said, "If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon bronze, time will efface it; if we build temples, they will crumble into dust. But if we work upon immortal souls, if we imbue them with just principles of action, with fear of wrong and love of right, we engrave on those tables something which no time can obliterate, and which will brighten through all eternity."

Every day, in the work of Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, our associates are giving what truly will last. That can include a glass of cold water to a resident, an encouraging word for a co-worker, a prayer for a distressed family member, or mending a gown for a great-grandmother who has no family. Deeds, not stones, are the true monuments of great.

Those actions become the joy of our mission.

– Beecher Hunter