

REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
Founder's Council Event, President's House, May 19, 2002

I am pleased to welcome you to the President's House.

Someone once said that "the true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit." And that is what each of you, as a member of the Founder's Council, has done. You have invested in Georgia Tech's future even though you will not be here to see the difference your gifts will make in the life of this Institute.

Many donors to Georgia Tech give their gifts while they are still alive and have the pleasure of all the attention that provides in the way of ceremonies, and seeing their names on walls and signs, and implanted in sidewalks. More importantly, they enjoy the benefit of seeing their gifts at work – they see the facilities and equipment their gifts provided, and meet the professors or students who benefit from their gifts.

You, who give through planned giving, bequests, and annuities, are just as generous, even though you will no longer be present to receive our thanks at the point where your gift is received... even though you will never have the opportunity to see the difference your gifts make in the life of Georgia Tech and its students, faculty, and staff.

Yours is truly a selfless generosity. You give with no expectation of basking in praise or being the focus of celebration, but rather simply to make a quiet investment in the future of this Institute we all love.

The Founder's Council was created to recognize you, and give us an opportunity to show our appreciation to you in person while you are still with us. We also want you to know that we will keep faith with you, and commit ourselves to using your gifts as you envisioned.

Anne and I are pleased to welcome you to our home today and to thank you for your generosity. We are hoping to speak with each of you during the course of the afternoon, so if we have not yet had that chance, please keep an eye out for us and stick out your hand.

Again, thank you for honoring us with your presence today.