William (Bill) Maloney loved Rainier beer, smoked salmon, and chocolate chip cookies. He also loved ACI and the concrete industry. ACI was not aware of the depth of his regard until recently.

A retired building inspector and concrete construction company owner, Maloney passed away in 2019, leaving a generous gift of $25,000 to the ACI Foundation. According to his sister, Sue Maloney Nicol, this wasn’t a sudden decision. “For over 20 years, Bill stated that he wanted to include ACI in his estate,” said Nicol. “I’m not sure what kind of help he received over the years when he ran his concrete company, but obviously he really appreciated the help.”

Maloney attended Oregon State University and the University of Oregon, majoring in mathematics. He first worked in television, serving as a cameraman and floor director for KGW Television in Portland, OR. He then began a career in construction, forming his own concrete construction company and working all over the Pacific Northwest building city reservoirs, fish hatcheries, restrooms, and building foundations. He went on to become a well-respected building inspector in both Washington and Oregon. In his retirement, he settled in Grays River, WA, and turned his attention to planting fruit trees, tending a garden, and attempting to raise cattle.

“We are honored and very grateful to receive such exemplary support,” said Michael Paul, FACI, ACI Foundation Trustee and a Director of the ACI Board of Direction. “This gift will be put to good use in advancing the concrete industry through top-notch research and innovation, and by nurturing the next generation of our leaders.”

Maloney is not alone in being a quiet supporter of ACI. A Fellow of ACI and a mentor to many engineers, Johnston brought a wealth of field experience as well as technical knowledge to ACI and ACI Committee 347, Formwork for Concrete. The $5000 scholarship will be administered by the ACI Foundation and awarded annually to undergraduate students who are enrolled in a bachelor’s degree program in civil engineering or construction management from an accredited institution of higher education.

The ACI Foundation promotes progress, innovation, and collaboration in the concrete industry through strategic investments in research, scholarship, and ideas. Through its Scholarship Council, it supports future concrete innovators and leaders by administering fellowships and scholarships to students. Each year, the ACI Foundation awards more than $200,000 in fellowships and scholarships in the name of individuals, organizations, corporations, and ACI.

The donations by Maloney and Johnston are just two examples of the generosity of both corporate and individual donors. Every donation, small or large, enables funding for scholarships and fellowships, and moves the concrete industry forward through research.

The ACI Foundation has awarded a total of $1.8 million to date in scholarships and fellowships for students studying concrete and engineering. This has directly helped 260 students with financial support, mentorship, and internship opportunities in the concrete industry.

This year, eight research projects were selected to receive grants through the ACI Foundation’s Concrete Research Council, including research projects on curing, service-life prediction, and the behavior and design of concrete structures under natural fires.

The ACI Foundation relies on funding from ACI and from ACI members, partners, and friends. “We are grateful for the generous support from so many in the concrete industry,” said Ann Masek, Executive Director of the ACI Foundation. “The donations from the estate of Bill Maloney and funding for the Roger S. Johnston Memorial Scholarship are deeply appreciated.”

To learn more about the ACI Foundation, visit www.ACIFoundation.org.