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Your Contributions at Work:

At our recent National Commencement ceremony last month, we were reminded of the power of giving and the power of the heart. During the ceremony, two Ph.D. graduates, Dr. Maurice Harris and Dr. Purcell Dye, wore the dog tags of a fellow student, Ril Beatty, who had passed away after just a year into his program.

Ril was a proud veteran, as are both Maurice and Purcell. When Ril passed away in December 2016, his fellow students looked for a way to honor him. Ril was the husband of Dr. Rosalyn Brown Beatty, a beloved member of the Union family and chair of Union's Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program. At his funeral service in 2016, another doctoral candidate, Jennifer Kramer-Wine offered a gift to Rosalyn and her two young daughters: that those commencing when Ril would have commenced had he not passed away, would wear his military dog tags in his honor.

As the story unfolded at the ceremony, we were honored to announce the creation of the **Ril Beatty III Scholarship** to assist doctoral students who are veterans and who are pursuing their doctorates in Public Policy and Social Change. **The scholarship was seeded by a grant from General Dynamics Missions Systems and facilitated by the vice chair of our Board of Trustees.** At the ceremony, Provost Dr. Nelson Soto asked Rosalyn Brown Beatty to stand and be recognized. Her two young daughters were in the room, as well as a dozen family members and friends. The audience gave them a standing ovation, along with the two graduates. We were able to thank her for letting us take this moment to honor Ril, who wrote in his application essay the following words: "My best work is not for me alone, but for all humanity. I am charged to be all that I can be, and do all that I can, to be a leader and a difference maker."

These are the stories – and the people who set Union apart and make Union worthy of your contributions. The work done by Union faculty, students, trustees, and our alumni is transformational, but also selfless. As Ril wrote, those associated with Union become all that they can be, do all that they can do, and become leaders and difference makers. Thank you to each donor who is a difference maker and who supports the next generation.

The following individuals, foundations, and corporations have made contributions that are transforming lives and communities. Your contribution makes a difference and helps shape the lives of our students and help our faculty in their endeavors.

Union gratefully thanks all donors who contributed to the university between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019, providing vital support to ensure Union's legacy of transforming lives and communities. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing and to include each donor. If your name is misspelled, omitted, or incorrectly listed, we sincerely apologize and hope you will contact us at development@myunion.edu so we can correct our records.

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