Lifeline beyond your lifetime

A guide to leaving a gift to MAF in your Will
Large or small, a gift to MAF in your Will can save many lives. A single legacy can cover fuel for an emergency flight, provide life-saving medical equipment, or even help buy a new plane. Whatever the amount, your legacy will make an incredible, lasting difference.

In East Timor, communities are still recovering from terrible conflict. Although one very generous Supporter enabled MAF to purchase an aircraft to help reach isolated people, it’s only through continuing support – including legacies, large and small – that MAF is able to respond quickly, as happened recently when a rescue team saved three lives.

Elizita, who lives in Suai, was looking forward to the arrival of twins when she showed signs of pre-eclampsia, which is a potentially life-threatening complication. The speedy delivery of both babies was vital, but neither was lying in the correct position, and her town lacks the facilities to provide emergency care. The only option was a 9-hour journey on extremely poor roads – or a 90-minute MAF flight funded by gifts from our generous Supporters.

Legacies will save many more lives. Elizita reached the capital safely, thanks to MAF, and the medical expertise at Dili Hospital ensured the successful delivery of healthy twins. A week later, a delighted Elizita returned home with two beautiful babies, grateful for the support of people like you.
A short history of MAF

Our legacy of hope and God’s love

In 1944, pilot Murray Kendon had the vision that aircraft should be used to provide help and spiritual support, rather than death and destruction. A year later, he formed MAF and prayed for others with the same vision to join him.

Stuart King was serving in the RAF when he read about the new organisation. After much prayer, he left a promising career, having read: ‘By faith Abraham... obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.’ (Hebrews 11:8)

When Jack Hemmings also joined, he and Stuart took off from Croydon Airport in 1948 to begin the 4,000-mile journey to Nairobi. Six months later in Burundi, Stuart and Jack miraculously survived a crash that destroyed the plane. Determined to continue, they finished the survey in an old station wagon.

The plane’s insurance enabled them to buy another aircraft, and they returned to Africa, covering vast distances and offering support and care to Sudanese people in inaccessible areas.

Today, our 130 planes serve 25 developing countries. Our vision remains unchanged - to see isolated people physically and spiritually transformed in Christ’s Name.

‘MAF is God’s vision, God’s work, and has seen God’s provision. Without God, and without prayer undergirding all our work in the beginning and today, MAF would not be where we are now.’

Stuart King, MAF Co-founder
‘The courage and vision of those who built up the service against incredible odds deserves to be honoured in tangible ways, so its future is assured.’

Julie Mellows, MAF Supporter
Marie Dixon would be thrilled to know how her legacy to MAF has been used in an amazing way. Always spending carefully, she saved in order to give, and spent valuable time praying for our work.

Through leaving us a gift in her Will, Marie helped buy an aircraft that has been used in Papua New Guinea to save many lives. In Madagascar, part of Marie’s legacy has funded medical safari flights to bring healthcare and spiritual support to remote areas which take many days to reach overland, but can be accessed by plane in under an hour.

What a gift in your Will could do:

- **£614** could fly a specialist medical team to 2 bush clinics in South Sudan, bringing critical care to people 150 miles from the nearest hospital.

- **£2,860** could cover the cost of 20 emergency medical flights, rushing seriously ill children and adults to hospital in a matter of minutes.

- **£17,600** covers fuel costs for 100 hours of flight time. Just one half-hour flight can save a life or show God’s love to hundreds who don’t know Him.

- **£154,577** can keep a plane in service for a year, covering fuel, insurance, engine maintenance and landing fees.
'We can’t do this job alone. We depend on the support of people who pray for us, and hold us up. We couldn’t be here if it wasn’t for those who support us in prayer and giving.'

Jon Cadd,
Eastern DRC Country Director
It’s a good time to consider

What your Will can achieve

Believe it or not, your Will contains some of the most important decisions you will ever make. So if you don’t have one, or it isn’t clear, up to date and legally binding, someone else will have to decide how to divide your estate.

Many people assume certain things will automatically happen when they die. Sadly, without a Will, there is no guarantee that your children or even your spouse will receive what you wish. If you are single, the entire value of your estate could go to the state.
Only by writing a Will and reviewing it regularly can you:

**Fully provide for those you love**

It’s you who understands the needs of each member of your family, not the state. Only by writing a Will can you provide for each one as you would like. There are biblical grounds for doing this. The Apostle Paul wrote, ‘If anyone does not provide for his relatives... he has denied the faith.’ (1 Timothy 5:8)

**Support vital causes into the future**

As MAF continues the work you care about today, we will only be able to receive your support in the future if you include a gift in your Will to help us keep serving people in need. Legacies play an important part in everything we do. They enable medical care, emergency support and spiritual assistance to reach people in need.

**Ease the tax burden owed by family members**

A gift to charity in your Will is exempt from Inheritance Tax, so giving to charity can protect your family from having to pay this sometimes significant cost.

**Gain real peace of mind**

Writing and regularly reviewing your Will to ensure it is clear and up to date can dramatically reduce legal costs, and minimise questions and complications. It also shows good stewardship – as those who leave a legally binding Will direct God’s blessings towards the people and causes He has guided them to support during their lifetime.
In a few simple steps

How to write or revise your Will

Whether you have written a Will or are considering doing so, here are some simple steps:

1 Remember that everyone should have one. If you knew you had a month to live, you’d have time to arrange to give your possessions and money to those you love. But if you died suddenly, none of this would happen – unless you have a Will.

2 Ensure your Will is valid. Writing your own Will, even using a kit, won’t absolutely ensure that your intentions are clear and legally binding. It is always best to consult a solicitor.

3 Consider how much to give. Should you wish to leave a gift to charity, be sure to cover your family’s needs first. After that, any gift to MAF will help us share God’s love with those in isolated places. A share of your estate (residuary gift) will keep its value despite inflation while a specific amount (pecuniary gift) could decrease in real value. However, we are grateful for any gift.
4 Clearly state your intentions about the gift you wish to make. Ensure there is no question about your wishes. You might like to use the following wording:

For a residuary legacy: ‘I give all (or ____ %) of the residue of my estate to MAF [legal name, registered address and charity number] absolutely for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.’

For a pecuniary legacy of a stated amount: ‘I give to MAF [legal name, registered address and charity number] the sum of £____ (figures/words) pounds absolutely for its general purposes, and I direct that the receipt(s) of the Director of Finance or other duly authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.’

5 Protect your Will, review it often and revise when necessary. Your solicitor will keep a copy, so there’s no question where to find it. You may want to review it often to remind yourself of your plans, or when you get married, have children, grandchildren, or when a family member dies. Revising your Will can be easy, as a Codicil like the one provided in this folder can be stored with the original.
Remembering what lasts forever

As she neared the end of her life, legacy donor Eva Saunders wrote a poem encouraging others to share the gift of God’s love – a love which will last for eternity.

Here is an extract:

Jesus has a place prepared Ready, just for me: HomewithHimI’llbehold Hisawesomemajesty. No more sin and no more tears; Nomoregrowingold, Lovedredeemedforgiven StandsafelyinHisfold.

In case you’re not sure

Answers to questions you may have

- **What’s the best way to get started?**
  If you already have a Will but haven’t reviewed it for some time, consider looking at it now. If you wrote your own Will, a solicitor can help ensure it’s clear and legally binding. If you don’t have a Will, now’s the time to consult a solicitor.

- **If I already have a Will, is leaving a gift to MAF complicated?**
  No, this can be done simply with a Codicil, which is added to your existing Will. There is a form provided at the back of this folder. It is a good idea to consult a solicitor.

- **What kind of gift should I leave?**
  It’s important, based on biblical principles, to look after your family first. Whatever gift you can then give to MAF will be deeply appreciated and wisely used – allowing us to respond when people need pastors, medical care or emergency support. Please feel free to give in whichever way you choose.

  A percentage or residuary gift will be beneficial for us and you, as it will ensure your gift doesn’t eat into what you intend to go to family and it won’t be devalued over time by inflation.
• Should I tell anyone about the gift in my Will?

We would love to be able to thank you for such a special gift. Please tell our Legacy Co-ordinator, who will keep everything confidential. Because one in ten of our flights have been made possible by gifts in Wills, telling us about your legacy will encourage us and those who rely on MAF support.

• Can I leave a gift to support a specific area of MAF?

Most people who leave gifts to MAF in their Wills do so without specifying what they would like them to be used for. This is most helpful to us as our needs may change over time. However, if you have a strong desire for your gift to be used in a particular way, please let us know. We will do our best to try and make this possible.

If you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to phone our Legacy Co-ordinator on 0845 850 9505, or email legacy@maf-uk.org
Thank you...

Thank you for considering leaving a legacy to MAF, an amazing gift that can help bring the Gospel, healing and hope:

- Bringing medicine to cure a parasitic infection that will otherwise kill nine out of ten patients
- Showing God’s love to thousands who have seen family members brutally killed during conflict and war
- Building partnerships with over 1,500 organisations that help speed skilled doctors, emergency care and spiritual support to people in remote places.

Please get in touch if you have any questions, or to let us know that you’ve decided to leave a gift to MAF in your Will.

‘It was very easy to include provision for MAF in our Wills. And we will ensure that this remains in any revisions – as a thank offering to God and out of a desire that His work continues.’

Peter and Jo Coates, MAF Supporters
But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles...

Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)