Nancy Hanes White ’70 is a passionate supporter of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A third-generation Tar Heel, she comes from a family steeped in Carolina tradition. Her father, Frank Borden Hanes Sr. ’42, and grandfather, Robert March Hanes, a 1912 graduate, are significant figures in the University’s history. Nancy knew she wanted to study at Carolina but in the ’60s, academic offerings for women were limited, so she first attended a women’s junior college. Ultimately, this contrast in educational environments made her time at Carolina more rewarding. “At UNC, I really learned to think for myself and be independent.”

After graduating from Carolina with a degree in English, Nancy married her college sweetheart, Monty White ’70. The two went on to raise their daughters, Anna ’01 and Sydney, in Raleigh — though Chapel Hill has always been a special place for their family.

Nancy and Monty’s giving across campus is diverse and deeply motivated by personal experiences. Their most recent campaign leadership gift focuses on several areas at Carolina, including medicine, environment, libraries, scholarships and five areas in the College of Arts & Sciences, including the Frank B. Hanes Writer-in-Residence Program, in honor of her father.

Many of these interests trace back to Nancy’s time as a Carolina student. Her botany professor inspired a lifelong care for the environment, and to this day, she can name all of her English professors. The Whites’ contribution to endow the Arts & Sciences Faculty Excellence Fund is based on Nancy’s own educational experience. They established this fund to ensure that generations of Tar Heels have access to the absolute best educators, just as she did.

Nancy serves on the Boards of Visitors for UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and the UNC Institute for the Environment. She noted that the Women’s Leadership Council has been at the forefront of recognizing and celebrating women as Carolina donors and leaders.

“Spending time with these women makes me particularly proud to be a Tar Heel.”

The Carolina Women’s Leadership Council is a network of women committed to supporting the University. For more information, contact Lanier Brown May at lanier_may@unc.edu or 919-843-5883.