Donation: Firm-to-Studio

“George was a wonderful person. He was always willing to help people, and he worked hard all his life,” says Pam Collignon. Her husband, George Collignon (School of Architecture, ’66), passed away in April 2022. As a tribute to her beloved husband, and her son who has followed in his father’s footsteps, Mrs. Collignon has generously funded the George and Andrew Collignon Graduate Studio in the Gray Design Building.

George Collignon graduated from Owensboro Catholic High School in 1959 and the University of Kentucky in 1966. He and Pam married in 1968 and lived in Owensboro. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, George worked for R. Ben Johnson, AIA for 10 years before forming his own practice. He later partnered with Nathan Nunley, AIA, creating Collignon & Nunley Architects, PSC. Collignon & Nunley served Daviess County and surrounding communities for many years with projects such as Owensboro Community College, Hancock County Courthouse, Morton J. Holbrook, Jr. Judicial Center, Owensboro Mercy Health System and Independence Bank – along with many of its branches – which is often considered his signature work.

Thinking about the days when George was working full-time while attending school, Pam often thought that a financial boost would have been helpful. “George did everything on his own,” she remembers. “It would have been nice if someone had helped him.” With that in mind, she has also made a generous scholarship gift to the College of Design. “George was determined to achieve his dreams,” she said. He was an extremely hard worker, and he was able to accomplish much of what he had hoped to do. I wanted that to be remembered. I know George would have wanted to help others fulfill their aspirations.”