

John Runkle and Nancy Dole

John Runkle and Nancy Dole aren't from the North Carolina coast, but that hasn't stopped them from loving it as much as any native.



Originally from Ohio, John and Nancy were high school sweethearts who moved to North Carolina in the late '70s for John to attend law school and Nancy to complete a graduate degree at UNC at Chapel Hill.

"I grew up in northern Ohio, around the falls of the Cuyahoga Riverthe river that notoriously caught on fire - and used to play in the woods near the falls," John said. "Now most kids don't have the freedom to roam in the woods and along the river and enjoy nature the way my brother and I did."

Whether it was the burning river or the time spent enjoying nature, John and Nancy have a strong interest in conservation and the environment, and a love for coastal North Carolina. They have been members of the Coastal Federation since 1982, and John was a charter member of the Board of Directors.

"The federation is made up of people with real roots and history with the coast, and people with a true passion for North Carolina's coast. That authenticity is why Todd and the rest of the staff are so successful - that combination of dedication and knowledge with a true love for the coast," said John.

John and Nancy have included the Coastal Federation in their wills. "A planned gift is a way to take care of family as well as an opportunity to protect something personally meaningful," said John. "If you don't decide how your assets will be distributed, someone else will decide for you." Nancy added, "We included the Coastal Federation in our planned giving because those gifts can extend our support to protect this beautiful and unique place."

Many people don't realize how easy it is to include a non-profit in a will; whether it's a set amount or a percentage of your remaining wealth, it's easy to do. A financial planner or attorney can show you how to ensure that all legal requirements are met and that your wishes are implemented the way you want.

John and Nancy are frequent visitors of Emerald Isle and the surrounding islands, and have a long-standing vacation week there with friends every September. While enjoying their time at the coast - kayaking to Jones Island, surf fishing at Emerald Isle, sitting on the beach, or experimenting with new seafood recipes - John and Nancy know their plans will make a lasting contribution to protect the coast they love for future generations.



To learn more, or to notify us that you've included the federation in your plans, please contact the federation's Development Officer, Sarah King, at 919-210-2617 or <u>sarahk@nccoast.org</u>.