



REMEMBERING KING'S

By JOHN MacKAY BA'71

MEMORIES COME IN TORRENTS now, often flooding in with a potency and richness I didn't know were possible when I was young. It's one of the curious states of being that aging brings.

After many years away, I'm once again in Halifax, where my daily walks take me across the King's Quad, quiet now in these unusual times. Often, for a minute or two, I stop and take in the beauty of this college I have always loved.

In the wash of memory, it was just moments ago that I bolted out the doors of Radical Bay late for class, that I sat aimlessly with fellow students on the A&A building stairs and that I lived, here at King's, that sense of vibrant expectation that belongs exclusively to those years of our lives.

Places, like people, have power and energy and in many ways, King's formed me; it was here, directing plays in the King's Theatre, that I discovered the talent that would become my first career. It was here that I made heartfelt friendships, some of which are with me still. I fell in love here, broke my heart here, experienced here the parts of myself that would become my cherished gifts and my life-long struggles.

Of course, there's a point to what I'm writing and excuse me if I've been a touch slow getting to it. I want to evoke in you, today, a reminder of what King's continues to evoke in all of us who have been here. I want King's to

survive, I want King's to prosper. I want the King's experience to be here, waiting for the many, many more of us yet to come.

To that end, I'm leaving King's a gift in my will. It won't build a building or bankroll a new academic program, believe me, but it's something, and doing so has great meaning for me. What I leave in my will is part of my legacy, a mark of who and what have really mattered to me in my life.

Perhaps, like me, you've given to King's occasionally over the years. Or maybe you've never been in a position to give, though King's has always been in your heart. Well, here it is, your last chance, so to speak, to support this college you love. You can set it up now and you can personalize it; you can leave a gift that lets the college use the money where they most need it at the time, you can earmark it for scholarships or you can work out something that has personal meaning for you. The gift I'm leaving, for example, will go towards the academic program that, at the time, is cutting edge and full of promise for the university, the program that may help shape King's future.

Whether you remember your years here as the flat-out happiest of your life, or, as I do, the years that brought you to life in unexpected ways, we all have ownership of the University of King's College and, to one extent or another, we're indebted. Remember King's and all it means to you in your will.