

Greetings from Tigertown!

Among the hearts, flowers, chocolates and enduring cards, for me, Valentine's Day is a reminder of the rich history of our great University and the love that exists between members of the Clemson Family. It began with a great love story.

In the spring of 1838, Thomas Clemson met Anna Maria Calhoun in Washington, D.C. She was 21 years old, and he was 10 years her senior. After a short courtship, the couple married in the parlor at Fort Hill, the plantation of Anna's politician father, John C. Calhoun, former vice president and then U.S. senator from South Carolina. The couple spent the first two years of their married life in Philadelphia, and in 1840, they moved in with Anna's family at Fort Hill.

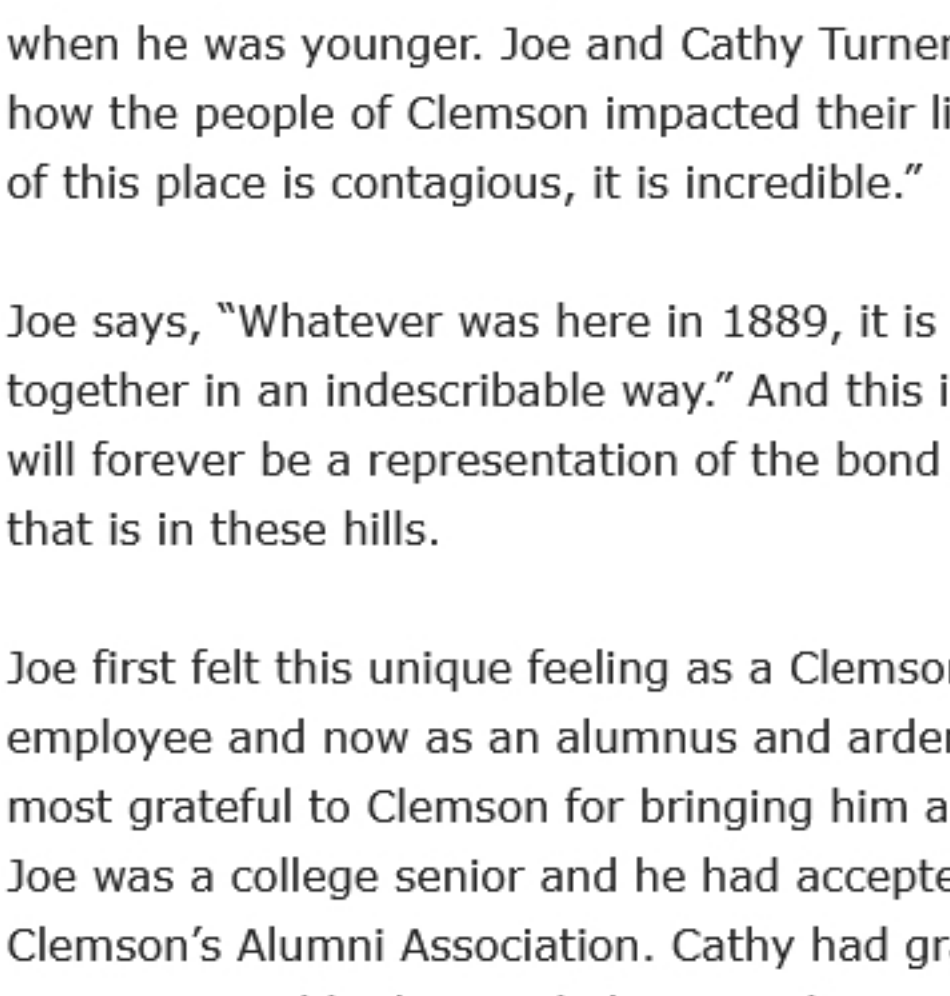
They built their life among the hills of what would eventually become Clemson, sharing a vision for the future of South Carolina – one that would provide educational opportunities for future generations. In January 1872, the Clemsons retired to Fort Hill following the tragic deaths of their two adult children. Although she never specifically mentioned the founding of a college at Fort Hill in her last will and testament, letters from Anna to Thomas proved they were in collective agreement that a college would be built upon the inherited land that she willed to her beloved Thomas.

And while Thomas and Anna's dreams were grand, I am confident that their vision fell far short of the extraordinary impact their generosity would have on Clemson, the state and the world. Their love and shared passions in life created the Clemson University we know today, creating the love story of an institution and those who are the heirs of their deep adoration and appreciation for the place, its mission and the people who would follow them to Clemson.

Thomas Green Clemson is remembered for many things, however his lasting legacy is poetically summed up in an article he wrote in 1867, *The Land We Love*. He wrote, "We want light. Civilization only advances through the sciences. . . . Science will open up new avenues for profitable occupation to individuals which will rebound to the power of the state; resources now lying dormant, will give occupation and wealth to unborn millions." And that is exactly what his planned gift has provided.

Thomas and Anna left their mark on each other and the multiplying effect of their generosity to create this great institution established a legacy of love. Cupid shot his arrow through the hearts of Thomas and Anna, and that arrow of love has permeated the hearts of all members of the Clemson Family.

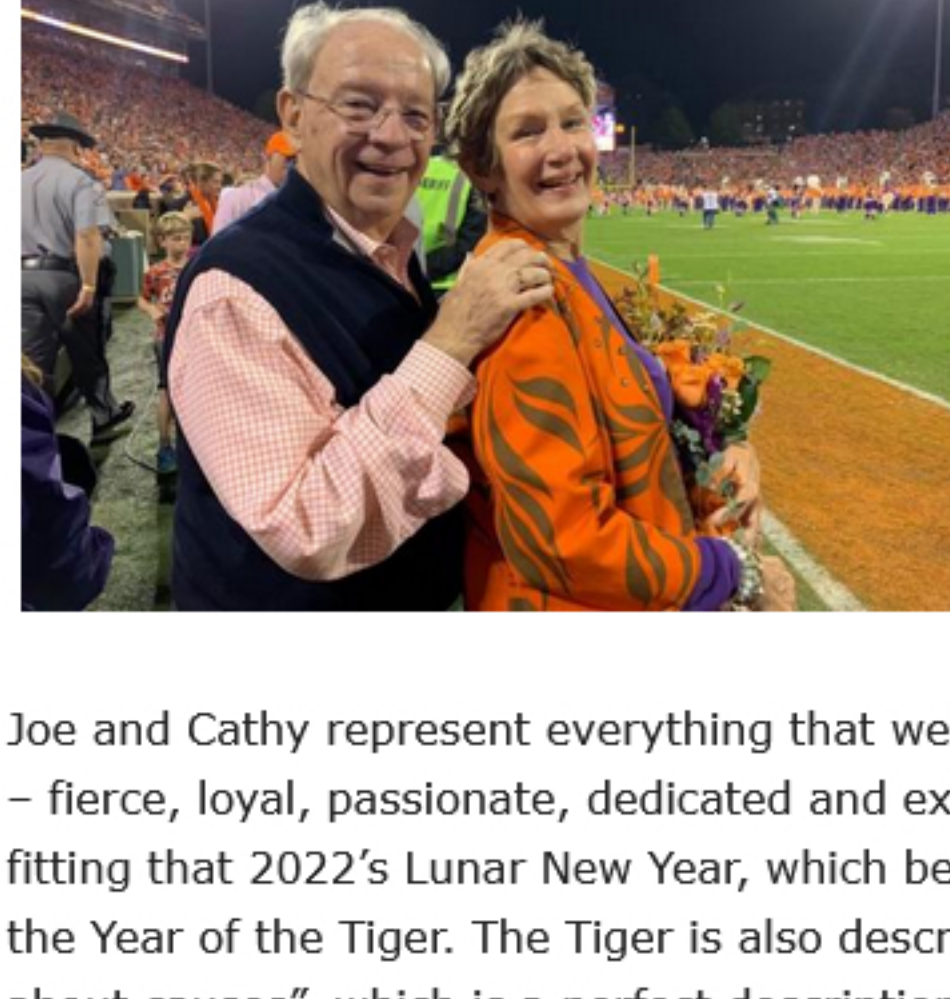
It is my privilege to share with you each month a highlight of some of the members of our Clemson Family who move Clemson forward through their dedication, passion and generosity. This month, I would like to share excerpts from a recent conversation with Joe Turner, '71 and Cathy Campbell Turner, MS '76.



"There is something in these hills that brings together and binds together and holds together men and women of all persuasions, of all heights, sizes, weights, and cultural backgrounds – something that cuts across every difference, spans every gap, penetrates every wall – something that makes a man or a woman stand taller, feel better and say with a high pride to all within earshot, 'I went to Clemson.'"

It has been more than 50 years since Joe Sherman, Class of '34, wrote these words in *Something in these hills*. The wonderful and remarkable thing about Joe Sherman's words is that they are as true today as they were the day he wrote them – and they will still be true in another 50 years.

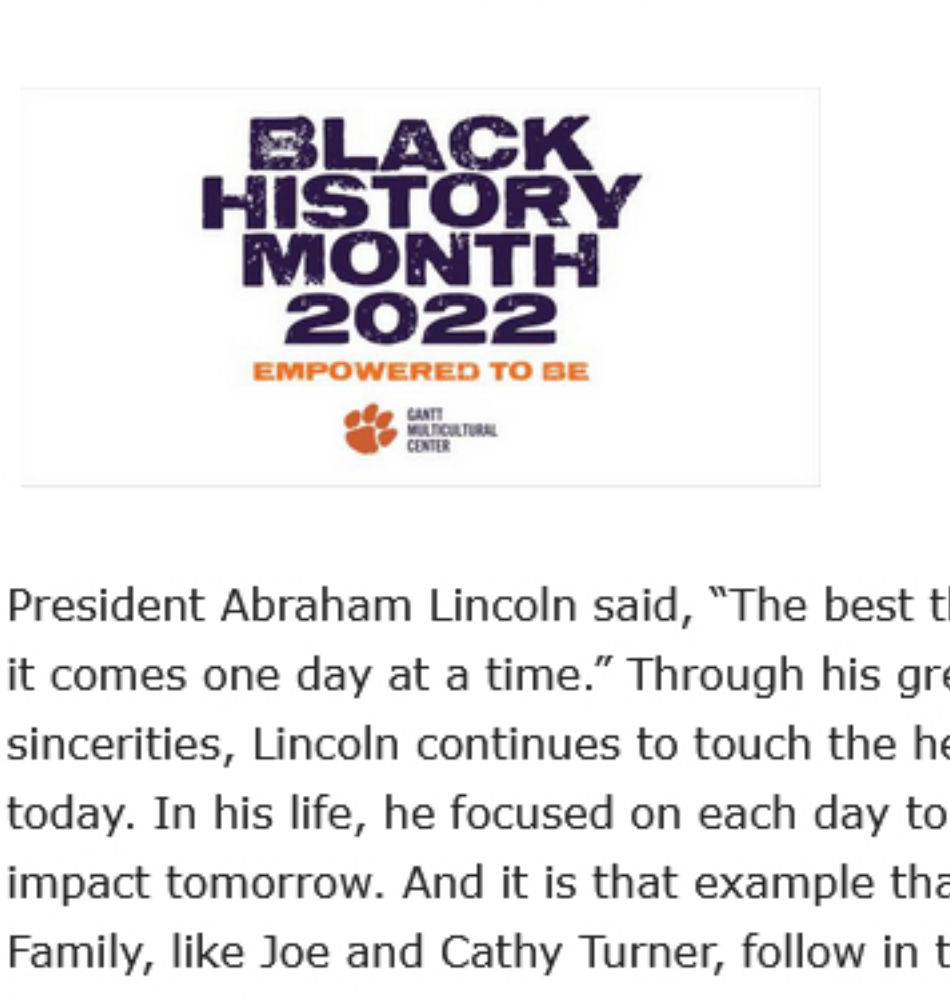
This is the beauty of Clemson and the Clemson Family. Our love and unbreakable bond transcends through time. Clemson has grown exponentially, and the world we live in is vastly different than it was 50 – or even 10 – years ago. But that special feeling Tigers get when they return to "where the blue ridge yawns its greatness," never changes. It is shared and passed down from one generation to the next.



Sherman wrote these words one sleepless night and brought the essay to work with him to the Clemson Alumni Association the following morning. At the time, Joe Turner '71 directly reported to Sherman, then the Director of Alumni and Public Relations. Joe's mentor shared the essay with him, and Joe remembers feeling especially moved by his words and how beautifully he had described Clemson. But at the time, he never imagined the impact that this single essay would have on the entire Clemson Family for generations to come. And as many of us often do, Joe says he took for granted many experiences, including this one, when he was younger. Joe and Cathy Turner have countless stories of how the people of Clemson impacted their lives. Cathy says, "Joe's love of this place is contagious, it is incredible."

Joe says, "Whatever was here in 1889, it is still here and bonds us together in an indescribable way." And this is why Joe Sherman's words will forever be a representation of the bond among Tigers and the love that is in these hills.

Joe first felt this unique feeling as a Clemson student, then as an employee and now as an alumnus and ardent supporter. However, Joe is most grateful to Clemson for bringing him and Cathy together in 1971. Joe was a college senior and he had accepted a position within Clemson's Alumni Association. Cathy had graduated from Auburn the prior year and had recently become the Assistant Dean of Women in Student Affairs, under Dean Susan Delony. For their first date, Joe took Cathy to see "Fiddler on the Roof" at Greenville Little Theatre. Cathy says, "We started dating, and it was something great." Cathy never imagined how much her first position would impact her entire life and be the stepping stone for her future. The two fell deeply in love and married in 1973. Three years after they married, Joe and Cathy further cemented their roots at Clemson with three children: Anne, Jackson and Tate. The Turners built an amazing life that has been seamlessly connected with Clemson University and the entire Clemson Family.

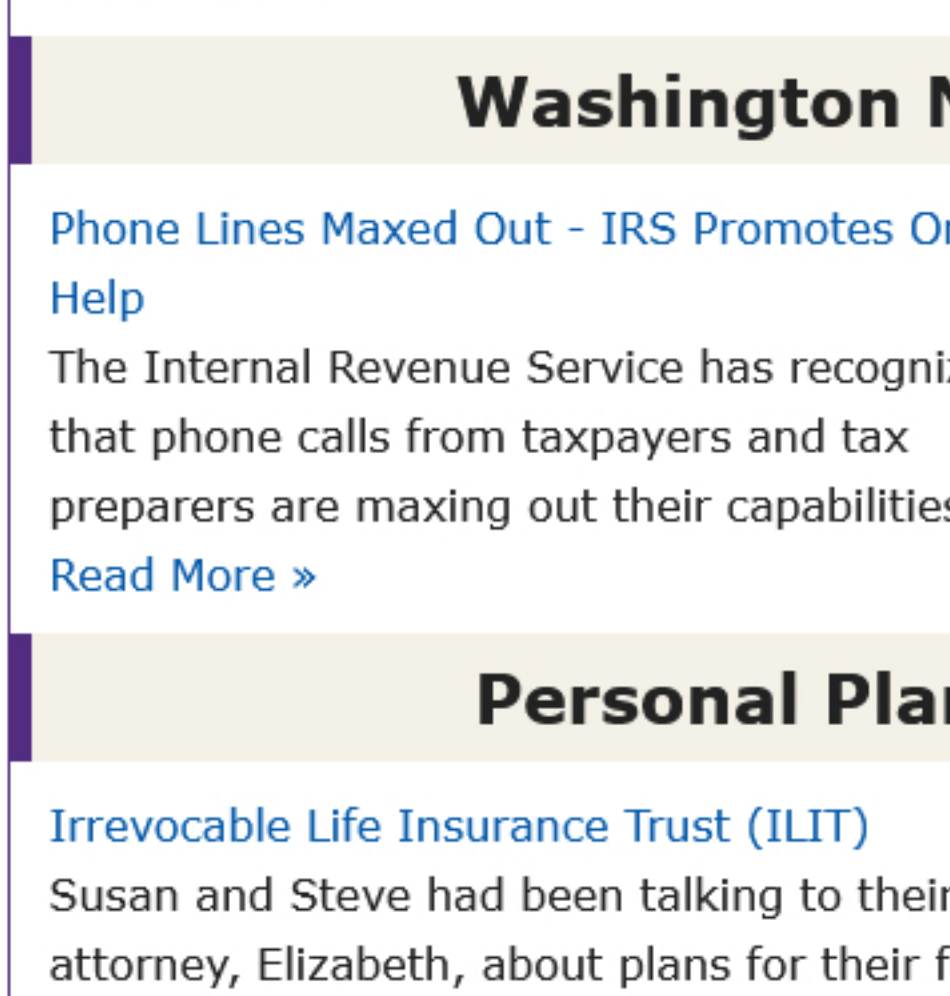


From Joe's time as a student to his and Cathy's time as employees and members of the local Clemson community, they have felt that the Clemson Family is committed to taking care of them. And now they are paying it forward and remain inspired to perpetuate the legacy and take care of the next generation of Tigers.

At the end of the day, Joe and Cathy have one simple wish – that they have helped somebody, somewhere, as a part of Clemson. Through their previous, current, and future giving plans for Clemson, the Turners are making an impact on thousands of students.

Cathy says, "If you have great people and a mission of value, you can move mountains." Among the great Blue Ridge – with the passionate support of our Clemson Family members, like Joe and Cathy Turner – Clemson will continue to move mountains.

Click [here](#) to read more about Joe and Cathy and how they are leaving their mark on our University.



Joe and Cathy represent everything that we know Clemson Tigers to be – fierce, loyal, passionate, dedicated and extremely generous. It is fitting that 2022's Lunar New Year, which began February 1, brings us the Year of the Tiger. The Tiger is also described as "being passionate about causes", which is a perfect description of the CLEMSON Tigers. Our University's mission and vision to provide quality education and opportunities to future generations is among the most honorable causes.

Time and again, the Turners find opportunities to lift people up – just as our 16th President Abraham Lincoln did. As we reflect on the upcoming President's Day, I am reminded of President Lincoln's contributions to our nation. Widely regarded as one of the greatest president's in U.S. history, President Lincoln has always been among my favorite presidents, for his eloquent way with words to his ready wit. He was a self-taught lawyer, legislator and vocal opponent of slavery – paving the way for the 13th Amendment, which outlawed slavery. Elected as the 16th president of the United States in November 1860, Lincoln proved to be a shrewd military strategist and a savvy leader, with his most recognized and notable contribution being his Emancipation Proclamation that eventually resulted in slavery's abolition.

Throughout the month of February, we also celebrate Black history. Long before it was officially declared in 1976, African Americans would often celebrate the emancipation of the slaves in February because it was the month that abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln were born. In 1976, President Ford officially declared February Black History Month, neglecting Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

Clemson University aspires to create a diverse community that welcomes people of different races, cultures, ages, genders, sexual orientation, religions, socioeconomic levels, political perspectives, abilities, opinions, values and experiences. We follow the examples of those who came before us, like Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln, to lead our University, our nation and the world to be more inclusive and diverse.

Clemson has dedicated this month to be a strength in which we celebrate and acknowledge the achievements and struggles of African Americans and members of the African Diaspora. The Gantt Multicultural Center's "Empowered to Be" has events scheduled throughout the month to promote the diversity and complexities of Black identity through multiple lenses and experiences. I encourage you to review the list of events [here](#) and find opportunities to learn more about the achievements and struggles of African Americans.

President Abraham Lincoln said, "The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." Through his great insights and ordinary sincerities, Lincoln continues to touch the hearts of millions of Americans today. In his life, he focused on each day to make changes that would impact tomorrow. And it is that example that members of the Clemson Family, like Joe and Cathy Turner, follow in their journey to making the future brighter for all.

Thank you for your passionate support of Clemson and your commitment to the future for ALL Tigers.

Staying connected with our fellow Tigers is more important now than ever, as we have found ourselves more isolated from the world during the pandemic. Please continue to communicate with us because we sincerely enjoy hearing from you. There are many ways for you to stay connected with our office. We encourage you to find our [website](#) to explore various online resources. You can also find information about IRA Charitable Qualified Distribution (QCD) benefits [here](#). For information about general estate planning, please download our free [Wills Guide](#), which is designed to help you navigate your thoughts and plans before you visit with your attorney and financial advisors. As always, we are eternally grateful for everything you have done for Clemson.

Best wishes to you and your loved ones for continued good health and happiness. Please feel free to contact me at giving@clemson.edu if we can assist you and your family in any way. GO Tigers!

Gratefully yours,

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[Fulfilling Dreams](#)
From the establishment of this University and throughout its long history of excellence in education, women have been investing in its future. One of these women, Angela "Angle" Pike '92, has followed in the legacy of Thomas Green Clemson and Anna Calhoun Clemson by creating a bequest of support to Clemson through her estate plan.

Thank you for your interest in planned giving. To access any of our resources, please go to our [website](#).

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