



# Make a Lasting Impact

## Miranda & Stephen Hires



Randy Hires (right). In 1944, Randy's mother, Mrs. Glenn A. Fite, had the honor of christening a ship at the J.A. Jones Shipyard in Brunswick. Mrs. Fite was presented a box containing a champagne bottle wrapped in decorative netting and ribbons that she broke on the side of the SS Johan Printz.

**Miranda “Randy” served as a museum docent at the Lighthouse Museum for years and later worked closely with our curator on a donation of family artifacts to the Liberty Ship gallery at the new World War II Home Front Museum.**

One of our most touching memories of the grand opening in 2018 was the first time that Randy saw her parents’ memorabilia on display. There were tears in her eyes and ours.

We learned of the Hires’ bequest in December 2022, shortly after the St. Simons Lighthouse’s 150th birthday and the launch of a \$1.25 million Preservation Campaign to permanently protect the historic buildings. Allocation of the bequest was put on hold as we pursued our fundraising goal. Not surprisingly, a dedicated fund for preservation was more challenging to raise than, for example, funds for an exciting new project. Fortunately, with the Hires’ gift we were able to complete the campaign on schedule in September 2023.

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**Bequests can help achieve challenging goals. Please consider joining the Hires by including the Society in your estate planning.**