

High Plains Legacy

Dr. Richard and Sandra Fruehling draw family and friends into their lifelong passion for rural Nebraska's natural landscapes

THE LANDSCAPES OF RURAL NEBRASKA CONJURE MANY HAPPY MEMORIES FOR

Richard and Sandra Fruehling, who both grew up in the Cornhusker state. That connection with nature was something they were determined to share with their children and grandchildren, says Sandy, who recalls bundling up kids on a snowy night to re-create a scene from the children's story *Owl Moon*. "I would call, 'Hoo hoo hoo,' and the owls would 'hoo' back," she says. Many years later, one of their grandsons drew on that memory for a college admissions essay. These days, the Fruehlings are still sharing their passion for Nebraska's wild places, including the nearby Platte River, where migrating sandhill cranes descend each March. Richard, a family medicine physician, serves on The Nature Conservancy's board of trustees in Nebraska. The couple have included a gift to TNC in their estate plans and encourage others to do the same. They also share their passion with young physicians training to work in rural areas. "We take residents and their families to witness the crane migration, to connect them with nature in that way," says Richard. "It's part of the Nebraska life experience."

LONG LIVE YOUR VALUES

The Nature Conservancy's Legacy Club is a group of more than 27,000 loyal supporters who, like the Fruehlings, choose to make a gift to benefit nature after their lifetimes. Many members make a gift through their wills, retirement accounts or life insurance plans.

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