



# SO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH WILL KNOW GOD'S LOVE

Your guide to transforming lives with a  
gift to MAF Australia in your Will



## OVERCOMING BARRIERS WITH THE LOVE OF GOD

For over 75 years, MAF has been involved in reaching the most remote communities with emergency relief, aid and development, medical care and the Good News of Jesus.

What began as a single aircraft is now a global operation, operating in and out of more than 2000 airstrips in some of the most isolated places on earth.

As each new airstrip gets built, doors are opened for us to bring in the love of God. It is an incredible moment and often results in significant transformation. This is what spurs us on to remain deeply committed to seeing that the ends of the earth know and experience this love.

**But we can't do it without you.**

Since MAF's first flight, it has often been gifts left to us in Wills that have propelled us forward in reaching this vision.

# FIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MAKING A WILL

John Wesley once wrote *“Reader, if you have not done it already, make your Will before you sleep”*. Good advice indeed! If you die without making a Will, State law intervenes, and your estate may be administered in a way that neither you nor your closest family members would wish, so...

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- 01 Make sure you have **a valid, up to date** Will.
- 02 **Family comes first** when it comes to deciding how your estate is to be allocated. A gift in your Will to MAF Australia should only be considered once family have been provided for.
- 03 We strongly recommend you use the **services of a solicitor** in drawing up (or changing) your Will. We would generally discourage the use of do-it-yourself Will kits in drafting what could well prove to be the most important and far-reaching document you ever write, so...
- 04 **Choose your executor(s) carefully.** This person or group will be ultimately responsible for carrying out the instructions contained in your Will.

If you are not able to easily identify suitable executors from among your circle of family or friends, you may consider engaging the services of a trustee company, which will do the work of an executor, and deduct their fee from your estate.

- 05 Ensure that other **end-of-life matters are attended to:**
    - Make sure your executor knows where your Will is located
    - Decide the matter of organ/tissue donation, and discuss this with your family
    - Clarify your wishes concerning life support/terminal illness
    - Leave instructions about funeral arrangements/disposal of ashes
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Attending to all these things in a timely fashion will relieve your family of a good deal of pressure, especially in the case of sudden illness or death.

# DECODING THE JARGON

It helps to understand some of the more common words used in estate planning (as it is sometimes called).

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**ADMINISTRATOR:** Someone legally appointed to look after your affairs if you fail to leave a Will, or if your executor doesn't act according to your wishes.

**BENEFICIARY:** Anyone who receives something from your estate.

**BEQUEST:** A gift made in a Will, whether cash or property or other valuables; sometimes called a legacy.

**CODICIL:** A document making a change or addition to an existing Will. It is highly recommended that a new Will be written when making changes to a Will to avoid disputes from one or more of the parties involved.

**ESTATE:** The total of the property, possessions and liquid assets you leave when you die.

**EXECUTOR:** Someone you appoint to make sure the instructions in your Will are carried out.

**GRANT OF PROBATE:** Official recognition that an executor has the right to administer the deceased's estate according to the terms of the Will.

**INTESTATE:** The situation where someone dies without leaving a Will. They are said to have died "intestate".

**PROBATE:** The legal procedure which establishes whether or not you left a valid Will, and who your executors will be.

**PLANNED GIVING:** Sometimes used to describe the process of making provision for a charity or not-for-profit organisation in a Will.

**RESIDUE:** That which is left of your estate after all debts, expenses and specific gifts have been paid.

**TESTATOR/TESTATRIX:** A man/woman who makes a Will.





## GIFT IN YOUR WILL

There are a number of different types of gifts in a Will that can be made, and it is entirely your choice as to which is best suited to your circumstances.

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**The four main types are:**

- 01 A SPECIFIC DOLLAR AMOUNT:**  
Determined by you at the time of writing your Will.
- 02 A PERCENTAGE OF YOUR ESTATE:**  
The advantage of this over a set amount is that your estate will likely gain in value over time, and may more accurately reflect your wishes with the passage of time.
- 03 THE RESIDUE OF YOUR ESTATE:**  
(or a percentage of the residue) – this is determined after other specific gifts, debts and expenses have been paid, and is a useful option if you are uncertain what size of gift to make.
- 04 A SPECIFIC ITEM OF VALUE:**  
Anything that could be used or converted to liquid assets by a beneficiary: shares, an art collection, life insurance policy, real estate, etc. Before making a gift in your Will, it may be best to discuss its suitability with the beneficiary first.

# SUGGESTED WORDING FOR GIFTS IN YOUR WILL TO MAF AUSTRALIA:

*I, \_\_\_\_\_ give, devise and bequeath to MAF Australia  
(ABN 26 134 583 887) for its general purposes, free of all duties, the following:  
(whichever is applicable)*

*The sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

*(or) \_\_\_\_\_ % of my estate*

*(or) The residue, (or) \_\_\_\_\_ % of the residue of my estate*

*(or) Life Insurance Policy number \_\_\_\_\_*

*(or) Property situated at \_\_\_\_\_*

*(or) Other (details) \_\_\_\_\_*

*and I direct that the receipt of the Chief Executive Officer, or other proper  
officer of MAF Australia shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor for the  
bequest.*

The precise wording that you use in your Will should be finalised with the help of a solicitor to ensure that your exact wishes are conveyed.

If your gift is in the form of a codicil to an existing Will, the wording will be similar (again, you may like to employ the assistance of a solicitor). A codicil is kept with (but not attached to) your Will. Its contents carry just as much weight as the Will itself. A codicil also needs to be signed by two witnesses – however they need not be the same ones who witnessed your original Will.

## **Requirements and Recommendations:**

- 01** Two witnesses are required at the signing of the Will.
- 02** It is recommended that each page of the Will be signed and witnessed by the two witnesses. This negates the possibility of a page being fraudulently replaced - given that modern technology allows for changes to be made very easily.
- 03** It is recommended that the signing is done with a blue (ink colour) pen. This makes it more easily distinguishable between the original document and a photocopy. It is also advisable to use a good quality pen to ensure the ink does not fade.



We in MAF would love to know when you have taken the important step of including MAF Australia in your Will.

It not only gives us the opportunity to acknowledge your commitment to MAF, but also helps us to plan for the future expansion of our work in new areas, and with more modern equipment.

*You will be My witnesses  
in Jerusalem, and in all  
Judea and Samaria, and to  
the ends of the earth.*

ACTS 1:8

**You are welcome to contact  
us in these ways:**

**BY MAIL:**

MAF Australia  
PO BOX 7187  
Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153

**BY PHONE:**

Free call 1800 650 169

**BY EMAIL:**

[maf@maf.org.au](mailto:maf@maf.org.au)





1800 650 169 | [WWW.MAF.ORG.AU](http://WWW.MAF.ORG.AU)

