



# The Frees Family

‘BRING MORE TO THE TABLE THAN YOU TAKE’ IS THE FAMILY MOTTO



The Frees family is well-known throughout Chester County for its deep roots, successful community-based businesses and longstanding civic engagement.

A little history: In 1933, David M. Frees opened the Frees Insurance agency in Phoenixville. He was followed, in 1959, by son, David Jr. Then in 1984, Robb Frees began working at the company with both his wife, Lisa, and his father. Recently Tyler Frees joined the company, making it a four-generation family business.

Tyler’s brother Morgan pursued a different path, working at JP Morgan Chase

& Co in New York City.

David Jr.’s and wife Mary Jane’s eldest son David M. Frees III, Esq. took the legal route, helping found Unruh, Turner, Burke & Frees, where he heads the Trust, Estate and Wealth Preservation Section and helps families who want to leave a legacy for their heirs. He’s also served as Chair of the Chester County Community Foundation and on many charitable boards and capital campaigns.

In 1995 David III’s wife Robin—while raising Joshua, Jamie and Alex—founded NewBorn Concepts, which served Phoenixville and all of Chester County. Robin now

works at Chester County Hospital.

Today the fourth generation has left the nest—Josh Frees works as a freelance illustrator, Jamie Frees Miller is an anthropologist land coordinator, and Alex Frees is a marketing director for CreditSuite.

David III recalls weekly tithing: “I remember eating

spaghetti suppers and lots of tuna noodle casseroles—simple meals. And every Friday, Mom and Dad would sit at the table with us, and we’d decide how much money we would put aside for charity.”

Robb continues, “Service and giving one’s time and money is an obligation, regardless of age or wealth. We developed the habit of giving, even when time and money were scarce. The habit endures.”

Over time, as the Frees family continued to grow and thrive, the family began more formal philanthropy. In 1994 when the Chester County Community Foundation was just beginning, David Jr. became a board member.

Continuing the family’s tradition of generosity, brothers David and Robb started the Frees Family Fund In 1997.

This intergenerational family legacy fund focuses its grants on “Neighbors helping neighbors.” A fitting demonstration of the Frees family motto: “Bring more to the table than you take.”

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