



entirelyunexpected

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DSM Magazine
The Depot at 4th, 100 4th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Selection Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of the University of Iowa's nomination of John Pappajohn for the *Sages Over 70* award. John is exceptionally qualified for this honor.

The Pappajohn name is synonymous throughout Des Moines and Iowa for an extraordinary level of philanthropy in numerous arenas. In Des Moines, the John and Mary Pappajohn Sculpture Park, which was a product of John's vision, comes first to mind. He dreamed of creating an accessible site where the community at large could enjoy his and Mary's collection of Modern and contemporary sculpture without barriers of any kind. I don't believe anyone could have imagined the impact that his vision has had on the cultural, social, educational, and economic components of the Des Moines Metro. Des Moines organizations, such as the Des Moines Art Center and the Des Moines Symphony, among others, continue to be the recipients of his time, talents, and resources. His service on numerous board and committees locally, nationally, and internationally, such as the Walker Art Center and the National Gallery of Art, testify to the level of his ongoing commitments and contributions. In Iowa City at the University of Iowa, the Pappajohn name is front and center, whether it is in support of business and entrepreneurship, or in bio-medical research. In both communities, the list of accomplishments and contributions would be very long indeed. Suffice it to say, neither would be the same today without John's leadership and wisdom in making each a better place to live, work, and study.

Generous, tough, demanding, visionary, and wise, I hope you give John your strongest consideration. He is certainly a sage of our time.

Best regards,

Jeff Fleming
Director

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Jeff Fleming, the Director mentioned in the text.