FRANK MARTIRE ’69 CREDITS MUCH OF HIS SUCCESS—AS WELL AS HIS SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM—to the education he received and the values he learned while an undergraduate at SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY. Martire, a native of Bridgeport, attended high school at Notre Dame and then went on to attend college in the same buildings at the newly minted Sacred Heart University. Today he gives back to his alma mater through service on the Board of Trustees where he chairs the Executive Committee and is vice chairman of the Board.

Right out of college with a bachelor’s degree in economics, Martire spent his first 10 years of employment in the Technology Department at Connecticut National Bank. He then went on to spend the next 10 years with Citicorp. Since then, he has moved several times for his career, including a 10-year stop in Wisconsin where he served most of the time as chief executive officer of Metavante Corporation. While there, his volunteer work included serving on the boards of the local United Way and Boys’ Club and chairing the boards of the American Diabetes Association and Aurora Health Care Systems—all nonprofits.

These days, Martire calls Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. (located near Jacksonville) home, although he and his wife of 42 years, Marisa, also own a home in Connecticut. The family made the move when a merger led to his current job as chairman and CEO of FIS (Financial Information Systems). His volunteer work now includes a position on the board of Baptist Health Care and on the Leadership Committee of the Mayo Clinic.

“I have made the decision to be on as many nonprofit boards as I can fit in, and my focus has been on education and health care,” he said. “The education I received at Sacred Heart has led to my success both in business and in the community. The moral and ethical fabric of my experience, along with my business education, has been invaluable. It was ingrained in me to start giving back as soon as I had the opportunity to do so.”

The father of three children and the proud grandfather of eight grandchildren (ranging in age from 2 to 6) is impressed to find that Sacred Heart still excels in that arena as well. “I am so proud of the way our students give back to the community by donating their time and through fundraising. Sacred Heart takes its responsibility to the community seriously and has stepped up. When you think about more than 50,000 volunteer hours in an academic year, that’s amazing.”

Martire has been spending more time on campus recently and loves what he sees. “I love the growth and how proud the students and faculty are to be here. The spirit of the students and the enthusiasm of the faculty are incredible,” he said.

He likes to arrive at campus 45 minutes before a Board meeting, so that he can talk with students in the dining halls. “I’ve been able to become more engaged recently, and I am enjoying my working relationship with the Board and with John [Petillo]. Success starts with the leadership and moves down, and John exemplifies that.”

Martire will continue to become more involved with Sacred Heart and is planning to give a student lecture in the spring. “I feel like things have come full circle, and I am happy to give back to a place that gave so much to me.”

Frank Martire tours campus with President Petillo.