MR. BAIER delivers his remarks:

The Honorable Randall Tobias, Chairman of the Indiana University Board of Trustees, President McRobbie, Dean Parrish, Professors Fischman and Farris, distinguished guests and friends of the law school. . . . good morning, and my thanks to the preceding speakers for your very kind and generous remarks.

I'd first like to introduce some of my family members and guests with me here today. First, my wife of 47 years, Bonnie Baier. My sister Bonnie Rupe and her husband Ken, my brother Alan Baier and his friend Ruth Ann Burnett.

Our family was raised on a farm in Remington, Indiana, a little town in Jasper County, halfway between Chicago and Indianapolis.
From Remington today to join in this celebration is Ambassador Randall Tobias, his brother Roger, and Steve Hageman whose family farmed directly across the gravel road from our farm... Tom Fischer, Remington’s attorney for many years and later Judge Fischer. And lastly my good friend from the wildlife conservation world from Indianapolis, John Tomke. Thank you all for coming.

Having been raised on a farm in Remington, I’ve remained a farmer at heart for 75 years... strongly connected to the land and nature. The boy may leave the farm, but the farm never leaves the boy! Chapter 3 of Ecclesiastes reminds us that for everything there is a season... an appointed time... a time to be born and a time to die... a time to sow and a time to reap.
Today is planting season all across the farm belt and here at the law school. A time for us to collectively plant a seed, another cornerstone, to support the future of this institution. What exactly is the seed I’m planting today and what are my harvest expectations? I have three answers to that question to share with you—three points.

But first a disclaimer. Let me be very clear. My gift to IU is not atonement or repentance for being a lawyer and real estate developer for the past 50 years!

My gift is first an energizer . . . a sparkplug and cornerstone to initiate and give reality to the beginning of Indiana University’s $2.5 billion capital campaign to celebrate the University’s 200th anniversary in 2019.
MR. BAIER continues:

It is a leadership gift to the law school to inspire other alumni to follow, and a response to President McRobbie’s bold campaign motto: “Fulfilling the Promise.”

Second, this building never had an official cornerstone ceremony when construction began in 1954, so in a real way my gift becomes an invisible cornerstone to support the future of this building, for which it is specifically earmarked . . . . just as the Eli Lilly gift did in 2007 to underwrite a dynamic faculty, and Mickey Maurer’s gift in 2009 to underwrite scholarships for students.

Having spent part of the last 50 years in commercial real estate development building office buildings and shopping centers, I’m a bricks and mortar guy. I’ve been called a place maker.
MR. BAIER continues:

In my building career, I've come to realize that "A sense of place instills a sense of purpose." Let me repeat that. "A sense of place instills a sense of purpose." That's what good architecture and design, handsome interior finishes, inspiring yet functional space to enrich one's mental attitude, and a well maintained physical plant can do . . . instill in our students a sense of purpose for why they are here, and what's expected of them in their ensuing careers.

The IU law school is the oldest law school west of the Allegheny, and the ninth oldest law school in the nation, begun in 1842, it is now 173 years old. Ground for this building was broken in 1954, and the library addition added in 1986.
MR. BAIER continues:

This building was appropriately built in the Gothic style of architecture with its mock tower, crenelated parapet, thick limestone walls and stylized leaded glass windows. The Gothic period ran from the 13th to the mid-15th century, from 1200 to 1450. The chief hallmark of the Gothic period was its architecture, the great cathedrals and fortified castles and towns of Europe and England.

Why is this Gothic architectural style so appropriate for the law school? Because it was in the Gothic period that England started requiring formal training for lawyers and barristers. Edward I in 1292, about 100 years into the Gothic period, required that barristers receive a formal legal education, which began in the Inns of Court in London.
When the library wing was added to this building in 1986, the Gothic tradition was richly followed, and is a magnificent example of great architectural vision, and interior space planning.

The law library looks out over the old, original IU campus and Dunn Woods, a magnificent forest. The architect designed an atrium, with an immense skylight on top, and on one side of the building, leaded glass windows that soar airily uninterrupted for the entire 5 stories . . . . reminiscent of the soaring stained glass windows in the beautiful Gothic cathedrals of England and Europe, capturing light and the heavenly world beyond, intentionally designed for these cathedrals to connect the worshiper with God.
Mr. Baier continues:

Scripture reminds us that light, eternal light, was God's first creation, which was not lost on the Gothic builders and architects. Curiously, the Astronomy Department's observatory and telescope are tucked into the woods just outside the library like a stage prop. Looking past the astronomer's observatory and into the woods and natural world beyond presents to the viewer a garden of knowledge connecting scholarship and legal education inside the library, to communion with the natural world, the celestial universe beyond -- and the wisdom of the ages -- letting intellectual light or enlightenment pour into the contemplative mind . . . . a wonderfully rich environment to brighten both mind and soul in moments of reflection and contemplation during study.
MR. BAIER continues:

The law library's inspiring design is but one example of how good architecture and thoughtful interior design and finishes can inspire scholarship and education, and motivate and inspire students and faculty in their studies and interpersonal dialectic and Socratic exchanges, a critical tool in a law student’s education in shaping a logical, analytical mind as they debate the very essence of an idea or legal theory, sharpening it like an arrow. As Proverbs says, “As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”

Referring to the other named buildings on this campus, during a naming ceremony similar to this in 2009, President McRobbie said “These buildings transform this university and touch the lives of students, faculty, staff and visitors.
MR. BAIER continues:

“These structures are built for a thousand years, and in that time will touch thousands upon thousands of lives, serving as physical reminders of the vibrant intellectual and cultural life of this university.” Truly, our President understands that a sense of place instills a sense of purpose.

President McRobbie wrote me a note of appreciation last month and said, “Your gift will enable boundless opportunities for students to flourish in these shared spaces, where they will undoubtedly build transformative relationships with peers and mentors as you did with Dr. Jerome Hall.” My endowment legacy I hope will inspire that sense of purpose in our students and faculty here in this building.
MR. BAIER continues:

If my first two reasons for making a gift to the law school were to fulfill the promise of the bicentennial capital campaign, and to endow the physical plant . . . the building . . . to insure continual enlightenment to our students, what was the third reason? It's far deeper and less transparent than the first two reasons and more sublime.

The third reason for my gift has to do with stimulating and germinating in our students an inner moral compass pointing them towards a commitment to public service. It is a commitment of stewardship and self-sacrifice for this generation, and those future unborn generations now in the womb of time. That takes many forms from professional careers . . . to unpaid volunteer service.
Scholarship here at IU means little if it is not in the service of humanity, grounded in the virtue of humility rather than what David Brooks calls the resume virtue of the "Big Me" which popular culture suffers upon society. Our achievement based culture embodies a corrosion of character which rewards self-promotion over service to society, and crowds out introspection and circumspection. Public service grounded in humility is a transformative lens that can be instilled by our faculty here at the law school, and related interdisciplinary and international programs. That's why our faculty's teaching and mentorship are so powerful. Books feed the mind, but the mentor feeds both the mind and the soul, and my mentor, Dr. Jerome Hall, did that for me by both instruction and example of how he lived his life.
His lessons became my geography of hope . . . my North Star guiding me for the last 50 years.

Last year a national survey of 30,000 college graduates was conducted by Gallup Group for Governor Mitch Daniels, now President of Purdue University. Governor Daniels was interviewed by the *Wall Street Journal* just 2 weeks ago – the survey revealed the 3 things students ranked highest during their college education that contributed materially to their careers and navigating through adult life were:

(1) Having one professor who made you excited about learning, (2) feeling as though teachers cared about you, and (3) working with a mentor.

Our young law students thirst for inspiration, guidance and hope. This is their last chance, right here, and our last chance to properly educate them at the Maurer School of Law.
MR. BAIER continues:

We alumni have a voice in their nurturing by insuring that the best faculty is in place to receive and shepherd them through their studies, that they have adequate scholarships to alleviate crippling student debt, and that their surroundings – the physical plant – is both inspiring and functional. These young law students are not just tomorrow’s practicing attorneys. They are the future judges, governors, and elected legislators at both the state and national level. They will govern the fabric of society our children and grandchildren will live in. We as alumni have both a social and moral obligation to our country to insure these law students are properly educated in our democratic principles and ideals . . . to preserve, protect and defend what Thomas Jefferson called this noble experiment in democracy.
MR. BAIER continues:

The two most important days of your life are the day you were born, and the day you discover why you were born. That second day can happen right here if our students have good mentors in the faculty, guiding their intellectual enlightenment process. Their future career is what they’ll get paid for . . . but their calling is what they are made for . . . and that calling, that second most important day of their lives when they figure out why they were born . . . can happen right here if we stewards of their future do our jobs today, and provide the right atmosphere and incubator for their minds. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes described it as “touching their hearts with fire.”
MR. BAIER continues:

In President McRobbie's April letter to me referenced earlier, he said, “Our students' legal careers are rooted in public service, and the benefit of daily insights students gain from their faculty and one another will surely catalyze successful career paths.” President McRobbie gets it! And to that I respond: Amen!

That's the third reason for my endowment. That it creates an atmosphere - a space - to nourish students to recognize and embrace their providential roll as public servants grounded with a strong moral, ethical and social conscience that will forever distinguish between societal . . . and temporal, secular needs as they protect our constitutional safeguards and democratic ideals.
Now, how is this third reason for the future nourishment of our law students to embrace a strong social conscience realized? By example . . . and this is where Dr. Hall comes in. Dr. Jerome Hall was that transformative lens for me when I had the rare privilege of working for him as his research assistant for two years during my student years. He taught me more about how to think logically and express in our native language clear, concise concepts and issues more than any other teacher. Dr. Hall was a genius, educated and cultivated in jurisprudence, philosophy, psychology and ethics. He held two earned doctorates in law and philosophy from both Columbia and Harvard following his undergraduate and law school days at the University of Chicago.
His life was dedicated to original thought in the science and jurisprudence of psychology and criminal law, authoring 11 books, 109 law review articles and book chapters, and 45 book reviews. Truly his life was a journey of the mind and spirit, because for him the law was an interdisciplinary study of people and the human interface both here and abroad.

Not only was he a distinguished professor, author and interdisciplinary thinker, he took that approach to law and society on the road throughout his career lecturing all over the world. After India won independence from the British, Dr. Hall later helped them revise their criminal code of justice, and he did that same in South Korea following the Korean War.
Dr. Hall, by example, demonstrated to his students throughout his life a commitment and dedication to public service. Hall was truly an intellectual giant that quelled the storms, rode the thunder and stood on other planets.

Some years after Dr. Hall’s bronze portrait bust was dedicated out here in the law library in 2005, I began a dialogue with our then law school Dean, Lauren Robel (now Provost) about how to take memorializing Dr. Hall’s inspiration to the next level to perpetuate it as an inspiration for our students in defining their lives. Lauren suggested an endowment for the law library . . . which she beautifully described as “The soul of the law school.”
MR. BAIER continues:

It is therefore appropriate that the library be forever memorialized for the school's most distinguished professor in its 173 year history, and forever hereafter be known as the Jerome Hall Law Library, thus completing Dr. Hall's apotheosis.

Today this neo-gothic building is being named "Baier Hall." I struggled long and hard for months whether to let my name be put on this building, because I abhor public displays of hubris, naked ego, self-glorification, pride and the piety of achievement. But after months of reflection and prayer, I finally accepted the University's generous offer to name this Baier Hall for the 3 reasons I've expressed earlier . . . most importantly to insure that a sense of place within these walls instills a sense of purpose in our students to become dedicated public servants either in their careers or as volunteers.
MR. BAIER continues:

As I look back over my 50 year career, I’ve come to recognize there are two types of people: leaders and followers, givers and takers. Winston Churchill near the end of his life said, “You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give,” a motto which I’ve embraced throughout my life. I would hope our students become leaders and givers, enlightened and germinated in this building by its world class faculty and their physical surroundings. For it is here where the intellectual foundations of our country’s future and preserving its constitutional democracy are laid. As I said at the beginning, there is a time to sow and a time to reap . . . I’ve been a steward in the fields of wildlife conservation for 50 years, investing my time and talents, speaking for our wildlife and wild lands that cannot speak.