



JOHN DELANEY (L'88) AND  
APRIL McCLAIN-DELANEY (L'89)

BY GREG LANGLOIS

John Delaney (L'88) and April McClain-Delaney (L'89) say they give back to the Law Center because they appreciate what Georgetown Law has given them—wide-ranging careers, business opportunities, and, above all, their relationship together. But while Georgetown enabled them to meet, it took some of the kind of strategic thinking that has made John such a successful businessman to make their relationship truly take off.

The two met one night, just before the start of John's third year and April's second, while out with a group of mutual friends in Washington, D.C. The next day, John noticed April in McDonough Hall's lobby, registering for classes. He sat down next to her, he says, to help her choose courses for the upcoming year—and to note which ones she ultimately signed up for.

"I proceeded to drop all the classes I had registered for and registered for the classes she had selected," John says.

The risk yielded a fine reward; by the end of the year John and April were engaged, and a year later, married. Their partnership also has been a boon to Georgetown, which has received, as a result of their generosity, an endowed scholarship, service on important Law Center boards, and a yearly student-alumni golf tournament. Not bad, especially in light of the evolving ways they've chosen to use their law degrees. Today, neither currently practices law.

John is chief executive officer and chairman of CapitalSource Finance LLC, a commercial finance firm he co-founded in 2000 that is now traded on the New York Stock Exchange. The firm provides loans to growing companies in a variety of industries, including health care services, real estate, manufacturing, retail, and consumer products. Loans range from \$5 million to \$50 million, John says. As of June 30, 2004, CapitalSource had more than \$3.3 billion in loans to more than 400 clients.

Though he isn't a practicing attorney, John says he maintains a lot of respect for lawyers because of their extensive training and the discipline their work demands. Those features, he says, make them attractive hires, even for nonlegal work.

"A lot of people view lawyers as an obstacle. I view them as a huge talent pool that you can

tap into to get really high-quality business professionals," he says. "They are smart and they work hard, and they are good communicators. We can make them into very good lenders."

April practiced law for about nine years and elected to stop working after the birth of her and John's third daughter four years ago. During her legal career, she specialized in telecommunications and satellite law, focusing on international regulations governing satellite and media services. Her career brought her to Cohn & Marks, a boutique communications law firm; Orion Network Systems (later acquired by Loral Space & Communications), where she served as vice president of international regulatory affairs; and a satellite-based Internet services company.

April has been an active volunteer for her children's school and for a number of organizations and charities, including the Boys & Girls Club of the Greater Washington Area, the Community Foundation of the Greater Washington Area, Discovery Creek Children's Museum of Washington, and the Children's Hospital Foundation.

She also gives her time and efforts to Georgetown Law, serving on the Class of 1989 Reunion Fund Committee, participating in the annual Women's Forum, and serving on the National Law Alumni Board. Her NLAB experience in particular has allowed her to give back to her alma mater in a meaningful way.

April and John, who himself serves on Georgetown Law's Board of Visitors, made possible the annual student-alumni golf tournament, which enables current students to interact with alumni for a fun day of golf in support of the Loan Repayment Assistance Program. They also made possible an endowed scholarship fund through the Delaney Family Fund.

"For a lot of reasons, Georgetown helped us get started with a life that I feel very lucky to have lived so far," John says. "So we're very fond of the university and the law school, and giving back is a way of staying involved and linked."