



# RAISE INSPIRATION CHALLENGE

## IN HONOR OF RONALD “SICKIE” MARCIKIC

Recognizing the outstanding contributions of Ronald “Sickie” Marcikic, an anonymous donor has committed **\$1 million as a challenge** to the community, aiming **to inspire support of an additional \$1 million** to name the east pool at Canyonview Aquatic Center after Sickie. As Masters Sports Director and Masters Swimming Head Coach, Sickie has built a program that has excelled and sustained for more than 40 years, bringing the campus and San Diego community together.

The donation and inspiration challenge will increase access and reduce financial barriers to Recreation opportunities for all Tritons through the **Recreation, Access, Inclusion, Swim Education (RAISE) Fund**.

In addition to Masters Swimming and swim education programs, RAISE will fuel programs and initiatives including the Active Triton Initiative, Outback Adventures, Sports Clubs access and the Tritons Flourish initiative, a partnership between Recreation and Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and Student Health and Well-Being.

Over the years, a tight-knit community of swimmers and friends has developed in the Masters Swimming Program, with Sickie leading the charge. The swimmers get together periodically at the La Jolla Cove for swims, including annual events like “Sickies of the Sea Cove-Pier-Cove Swim.” But over the years, the cove swims evolved into something bigger.

At UC San Diego, we believe that what we don’t know today will forever change our tomorrows. Empowered by generosity and fueled by curiosity, we are unafraid to chase the unknown — to ask the questions no one has asked before and to push the boundaries of possibility. Together, we unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.

### 40+ YEARS

Program founded in 1983, led by Ronald “Sickie” Marcikic since inception

*“If you ask why Coach Sickie should be honored, I have to say it is because of the community he has built. We are an ever-growing family who all share a passion for the sport of swimming — and it doesn’t matter whether you swim in one of the faster lanes or the ‘not faster lanes,’ Sickie brought us together and keeps us together. He is always there. Always happy. Never late.”*

*-- Dennis Roth, Masters Swimming participant*



Ronald "Sickie" Marcikic

Together with your philanthropic support, RAISE the support vital for ensuring the Masters Swimming Program and UC San Diego Recreation continue to inspire community connections and pathways to health and happiness.

For more information on supporting the RAISE Inspiration Challenge, please contact:

**Tiffany Ayres**

Director of Development

tayres@ucsd.edu

(858) 287-0966

## INSPIRATION TO HONOR

### A CHAMPION FOR COMMUNITY

Your participation in the RAISE Inspiration Challenge will not only bring us one kick closer to naming the pool after Sickie, it will support aquatics-related facility renovations and equipment upgrades that will provide vital operational enhancements in support of our wellness-focused programs and initiatives.

- » The challenge provides a 1:1 match for gifts of any size
- » Goal of **\$1 million** in additional funds raised by **January 31, 2026**
- » If goal is met, the eastern pool at the Canyonview Aquatic Center will be named the **Ronald "Sickie" Marcikic Pool**

### GIFTS THAT WILL BE MATCHED DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR

- » Outright gifts
- » Pledges (made over five years or less)
- » A gift in will or a living trust

### WAYS TO GIVE

- » Check
- » Credit card
- » Recurring donations
- » Recurring donations
- » Extra tax-advantageous ways to give
  - » Qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from IRAs\*
  - » Appreciated securities (such as stock, mutual fund or cryptocurrency)
  - » Donor Advised Fund

*\*For donors over the age of 70 ½ - gifts from IRAs, also known as QCDs, are an easy way to give with the added benefit of avoiding recognition of income and satisfying the required minimum distribution for those who are also over 73.*

Participation in the RAISE Inspiration Challenge honors a true champion for community while providing the resources necessary to sustain high-quality recreation experiences. **Please consider making your gift today.**

**UC San Diego**