

# Advisory Board Member Feature



Jim and Maureen Quaid

James G. Quaid,  
Advisory Board  
Member, is  
Director,  
Ostrow Reisin  
Berk & Abrams,  
Ltd. and is based  
in Chicago.

*Please tell us a little about: A few sentences on:*

## Your family...

I am very thankful to have a healthy, loving, and supportive family including my wife, Maureen, and children – Brendan (16), Kathleen (15), and Colleen (11). I am also grateful for a very supportive extended family and group of friends.

## Influential people in your life...

Maureen is my confidant and best friend. She is a great listener and is very practical. I also rely on my extended family, including my dad (who is also a Marquette alum – 1956), brother, and sister, and other family members, for their guidance and support. In my professional life, I owe a lot to the partners and managers at a former firm I worked at who gave me a great foundation to grow and learn as well as to the directors at ORBA where I work now. They saw I had the potential to become a director and now a co-leader of our firm's Not-For-Profit Group. I also had the fortune to serve on the Illinois CPA Society's Not-For-Profit Committee that Scott Steffens, a partner at Grant Thornton and current Chairperson of the Illinois CPA Society, chaired. Scott has been a friend and mentor of mine for a long time.

## What might surprise some folks about you...

I took up jogging a few years ago and have completed the Naperville Half-Marathon the last three years. Most rewarding is that we were able to raise some funds for the Swifty Foundation, a local charity funding research for pediatric brain cancer ([www.swiftyfoundation.org](http://www.swiftyfoundation.org)).



Kathleen, Colleen (front) and Brendan Quaid

## What you especially like about your job...

I enjoy the opportunity to work with my colleagues providing solutions for our clients. Most of the clients I work with are charitable organizations, such as charter schools, foundations, museums, and other civic/social agencies. They are doing amazing things in our community. I hope that our work will teach our clients a few things on financial best practices and allow them to prioritize their efforts on programs and continuing to do good for many years to come.

## What always stays new about your job...

Every client has different needs with different challenges every day. We work hard to gain the trust of our clients and they rely on me and our firm as one of their business advisers to assist them in both financial and operational decisions.

## Special memory of Marquette...

There are too many to list for this short article. However, I have special memories of and great friendships developed during sophomore year living at West Hall, which was located on 26th and Wisconsin. We took a school bus to and from campus every day and got to know each other quite well. It was far (off campus) but we had a lot of fun.

*1-2 words to indicate your favorite:*

## Time of the year...

Fall

**Movie...** A bit corny but I love watching Charlie Brown movies around the holidays.

## Spectator sport...

Hockey



Maureen and Jim