



About Matthew Crider, J.D.

Matthew Crider formed [Crider Law PC](#) in 1999 so he could help individuals and business owners by providing creative solutions and be their trusted advisor and legal counselor. He serves his clients by listening closely to their goals, dreams and concerns and working with them to develop superior and comprehensive estate and asset protection plans. His estate planning practice focuses on preserving and growing wealth by providing comprehensive, highly personalized estate planning counsel to couples, families, individuals and businesses.

Man leaves estate to actors he had never met

By Matthew Crider, JD | Family Wealth Protection Attorney

A man who died last summer in Illinois left his million dollar estate to two actors he never met.

According to an article on [ABC's Good Morning America](#) web site, Ray Fulk, who was 71 when he died, left the two actors a half million each. Fulk lived alone and had no family.

But he admired the actors Kevin Brophy and Peter Barton, who he had never even met.

His attorney, who drew up the will, said Fulk told him they were friends of his. Brophy was in the 1977 TV show "Lucan." Brophy was on the soap opera "The Young and the Restless" from 1987-1993.

Barton actually visited Lincoln, Ill. after he received the news and met with Fulk's estate planning attorney, Donald Behle. He wanted to make sure the letter he had received was real. "His reaction was disbelief," Behle said.

Behle, who said he only met with Fulk once and never saw him again, said the dead man had a house worth just over \$1 million. He also had cash and CDs worth about \$230,000.

In addition to the two actors, Fulk left money to the Anti-Cruelty Society, an animal organization in Chicago.

Behle said it was the oddest case he had ever seen in 30 years of practicing estate law