

---

---

*Sherwood Investment Services*  
Financial Planning & Investment Management

Eric Linger, RIA  
Registered Investment Advisor

425-898-8989  
Sherwood-Investments.com  
elinger@Sherwood-Investments.com

23705 NE 61st Street  
Redmond, WA 98053

*The Savvy Investor*  
**Keeping Control With a Trust**

Once your estate approaches \$2 million in Washington (and many other states), we often suggest seeing a good attorney who specializes in estate planning. You might benefit from an irrevocable trust and making annual gifts to it. This serves the purpose of removing assets from your estate and reducing or even eliminating state and Federal estate taxes.

**The common misconception is that if you give up ownership with an irrevocable trust, you must also give up control. That's not the case.** In fact, even some estate planning attorneys misunderstand this issue.

There are several ways to place assets in an irrevocable trust and still retain access to the

funds if you need them. For example, in a private letter ruling, the IRS permitted a taxpayer to loan money to an irrevocable trust and agreed that such loans would not cause the death benefit to be included in his estate.

In other cases, irrevocable trusts can be set up to allow the trustee to make loans from the irrevocable trust

Don't confuse ownership and control. **Good estate planning removes assets from your estate (ownership) but still gives you access and indirect authority over the assets (control).**

---

**We work with an excellent team of estate attorneys to assure that your estate plans meet your wishes.**