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Carson Smith\*

**Nominated by: American Cancer Society** 

Honored posthumously, as a cancer survivor himself, Carson knew long ago that he wanted to make an impact in the fight against cancer, and that is exactly what he did. In addition to giving of his time, Carson established numerous gift vehicles over the years to further the Society's mission including for the development of its Musekamp Family Hope Lodge in Cincinnati, which provides free lodging to cancer patients and their families. By including ACS in his Charitable Remainder Trust and will, and establishing Charitable Gift Annuities, Carson has ensured that the impact of his generosity will continue in perpetuity. For this and his other community work, he was honored at the American Cancer Society Gala and National Philanthropy Day.

Carson was a talented artist and attended Cincinnati Art Academy, on scholarship, in design and portraiture. He served in WWII and received the Purple Heart. Post-war, he worked as a designer for Greiwe Interiors. He enjoyed art, theater and travel and was the personification of pure joy. His zest for life and infectious laugh made him an inspiration to all who knew him. When Carson passed away in December, he was just shy of his 96th birthday in January.

#### **Fran Cohen**

#### Nominated by: CET – Greater Cincinnati Television Educational Foundation

A believer in accessible educational, cultural and arts opportunities, Fran's history with CET dates back to 1971 when she began volunteering for its Action Auction fund raiser. Quickly she was promoted, working in different leadership positions with the annual event; and in 1987, to Action Auction chair, helping to raise over \$1 million that year – a first. In 2008, the CET Premier Circle (major giving) Committee gained a new chair, with Fran at the helm. Two years later she received the highest recognition award for a volunteer – The Charles W. Vaughan Award, for her decades of support and dedication to public television. She is also a Cincinnati Enquirer Woman of the Year.

By including CET in her will, she will be supporting its endowment. The interest will be used to purchase and update capital equipment, which will enable CET to stay on the cutting edge of television technology, impacting millions of viewers on-air and on-line.

#### **Joe and Sandy Dominiak**

Nominated by: The Children's Home of Cincinnati

Joe and Sandy Dominiak share a fundamental and essential belief with The Children's Home, "that the future lies in the hands of every child, regardless of circumstances." They live that belief by actively supporting the organization financially and through devotion of their time, talent, and passion. Joe

serves as a Trustee and works hard to preserve and advance the organization's mission. As an adopteee himself, he feels a strong personal connection to the cause.

In order to help secure the success of future children, Joe and Sandy recently made a very generous provision for The Children's Home in their estate plans. They also show their commitment by serving as committee chairs of Rockin' Ribs at Riverfest, an event that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars.

As CEO of Skyline Chili, Joe was also able to secure a matching gift from the company that was a vital part of making the 2015 year-end campaign one of the most successful in the history of The Children's Home. "Many people helped us achive what we have in life. Our giving is a small gesture to help The Children's Home serve some of our community's most vulnerable children," said Joe.

# Thomas Ernst Huenefeld Nominated by: Cincinnati Museum Center

A life member of Cincinnati Museum Center, Tom formerly served as an active board member of The Cincinnati Historical Society and, for many years, was a member of the History Advisory Board. While serving as trustee of The Cincinnati Historical Society from 1979 to 1989, he organized and led its first corporate capital fund drive in 1981. More recently, Tom has served as a member of the History Advisory Board at Museum Center. He has tour guided for a number of out-of-town visitors, as well as some local visitors, through the History Museum as part of introducing them to Cincinnati's fascinating history. In addition to his volunteer work, Tom made a sizable bequest to Cincinnati Museum Center for the purpose of creating a new exhibit covering Cincinnati's "Golden Age: 1870 through 1930s" that will be part of the Cincinnati History Museum.

A retired banker and financial consultant, he retired from US Bank at the end of 1996 as senior vice president of corporate banking, and has continued consulting for U. S. Bancorp and several Cincinnati companies.

## **Digi France Schueler**

## Nominated by: Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park

Digi Schueler and her husband, Mike, have been subscribers and donors at the Playhouse since 2000 – and for the past nine seasons have sponsored the opening production in the Shelterhouse Theatre. A 12-year member of the Playhouse Board, Digi has held several leadership positions during her tenure, including secretary of the Board, co-chair in 2015 of the highly successful Leading Ladies program, chair of Abracadabra 2004, two years as chair of the Individual Giving Committee, as well as serving as a member of the Stern Endowment Campaign Cabinet.

In 2007, Digi notified the Playhouse that she had included the Playhouse in her will, saying, "It is important to me that we come together as a community to share in the joys and challenges of what it means to be human. The Playhouse does a remarkable job of entertaining us, but as importantly, bringing to light difficult subjects and providing a forum for discussion and open communication."

**Dr. Mary Rose J. Zink** 

Nominated by: Cincinnati Public Radio (WGUC, WVXU, WMUB)

A long-time listener and supporter of Cincinnati Public Radio, 91.7 WVXU has accompanied Mary Rose on many a long commutes to and from work at Wilmington College, and on her travels to teach at several Ohio prisons. She also credits the station with helping her form lecture material and discover new books for her students, especially those classes focusing on psychology, social justice, human sexuality, and research. Public radio opened her eyes to music of all genres; and, its "StoryCorps" has allowed Mary Rose to value the many stories with which she grew up, giving her opportunities to interview her mother and father about their past.

In addition to her annual contributions, Mary Rose is a member of the station's legacy society. By naming the station a beneficiary of her will, she ensures that the programs she cherishes will be available for future generations. Cincinnati Public Radio is honored to be included as a recipient of Mary Rose's benevolence.

Her kindness extends well beyond Public Radio. She is deeply connected to Toward Independence, CITYFOLK Traditional Arts Organization, Diversion Alternative for Youth, and Queen City Organization. She has also served on advisory boards for the Corrections Training Academy and Ohio Reformatory for Women.

#### **Mace Justice**

#### Nominated by: Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

A retired school teacher, Mace Justice has been an active supporter and subscriber of the CSO for over 50 years. He has provided financial support for commissions, broadcasts, the appearance of guest artists, as well as general operating support. He has also endowed a Chair for the Associate Principal Second Violin in honor of Mace's parents. As a member of CSO's planned giving society, The Thomas Schippers Legacy Society, Mace has ensured that his legacy will live on as a valued part of the CSO family. He has named the CSO as a beneficiary of his Charitable Remainder Trust.

Additionally, Mace has written a book entitled "A Fiddler's Journey" about his sister, Judy Justice, a violinist who toured Germany soon after World War II.

# Dr. Steve and Diane Dumbauld Nominated by: Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Diane's son, Michael Deger, loved the Zoo and the programs in which he participated. Although he passed away too soon, his love of the natural world will continue through an educational fund named in his honor that Steve and Diane started. Michael's Memorial Fund will serve people who need help - young people and families who have limited resources and a real desire to be a part of Zoo education programs.

Each year, the Zoo does its best to keep educational camps fees reasonably priced to insure inclusivity, but there are still families who need help. Michael's family has also chosen to honor his memory by setting up scholarship funding to cover the current level of requests on an annual basis. The Dumbaulds have made an initial gift to create and endow the Michael P. Deger Memorial Fund and have included the endowed fund in their estate plans to ensure this special program funding is in place forever.

## **Patricia Armstrong**

## Nominated by: CISE (Catholic Inner-City Schools Education) Foundation

An educator for more than 40 years, most recently Pat was principal at Immaculate Heart of Mary School before becoming assistant superintendent of education for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati in 1983. One of her responsibilities in her Archdiocese role included serving as consultant to the CISE schools, where she chaired principals' meetings to discuss planning, issues and ideas to enhance the academics at the Catholic inner-city schools. She also served as interim director of education services and superintendent of schools in 2010.

Through her work, Pat has been an enthusiastic advocate for CISE and the Catholic inner-city schools having served as a member of the CISE Advisory Board since September 2000 and the Executive Committee since 2008. She also served as a member of the CISE High School Grant Committee and helped review the academic qualifications of applicants. In addition, once a year she speaks at Sunday Masses on behalf of the CISE Parish Appeal at Immaculate Heart of Mary, her parish. Her legacy gift to the CISE Foundation is helping her ensure this cause so dear to her heart will continue for future generations. Pat became a Charter Member of the St. Benedict Society in 2011 and has set up a bequest for the CISE Foundation.

## **Doug Spitler**

#### **Nominated by: Episcopal Retirement Services**

Doug has dedicated his life to serving others; and, for the past 29 years, his service has included as the president of Episcopal Retirement Services. During his tenure he has worked to create an organizational culture founded on kindness and empathy beginning with employees and their relationships with residents. Additionally, he supported the creation of ERS' Living Legacy Society, which recognizes donors who have given a planned gift. Through Doug's leadership, every single member of ERS's executive team has joined the Living Legacy Society by committing a planned gift, along with several residents of Marjorie P. Lee and Deupree, ERS Board members, and resident family members.

Never one to ask of others what he himself would not be willing to do, Doug has also made a generous planned gift that will enhance the person-centered services at ERS that have become the organization's hallmark under his leadership. Doug has been recognized with the Leading Age Ohio Award of Honor, Medical Mutual Pillar Award, and the Venue Magazine Health Leaders Award.

#### Richard Hildbold\*

#### **Nominated by: Freestore Foodbank**

Richard (Dick) and Norvita have been among the Freestore Foodbank's longest and most faithful supporters. For more than 30 years, the couple have been donating to ensure the agency provides food and supportive services to its neighbors. In 2007, they made one of the largest gifts to the Freestore Foodbank's Capital Campaign to build a new home for their administrative offices and Cincinnati COOKS!, a program that trains unemployed and under-employed adults to work in the food service industry. When Dick passed in 2015, the Freestore Foodbank received another extraordinary planned gift from his IRA – a gift that was given in appreciation of his dear friend and founder of the Rubber Duck Regatta, Bob Edwards (and Bob's wife Sylvia).

Dick spent 35 years as a senior executive at the Cincinnati Insurance Company and felt it was his responsibility to support charitable organizations in our community. In addition to the Freestore Foodbank, he and Norvita supported a number of organizations, including Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Habitat for Humanity, and Inter Parish Ministry.

#### **Jerome and Suzanne Teller**

## Nominated by: Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and Isaac M. Wise Temple

Jerome (Jerry) and Suzanne have been active supporters and participants in civic, religious, professional, and philanthropic organizations throughout their lives including for HUC and Isaac M. Wise Temple. Jerry served on various committees while he was a member of HUC-JIR's Central Region Board of Overseers, and became a prominent member of the College-Institute's Board of Governors. He was honored for his many contributions at HUC-JIR's 125th Anniversary Celebration in 2000.

Sue, a lifelong member of Isaac M. Wise Temple, served the congregation in numerous leadership positions on the Board of Trustees for many years and was the President from 2001 to 2003. Over the years, Sue and Jerry have been Co-Chairs of Wise Temple's Capital and Endowment Campaigns. For many years, both Jerry and Sue have also served on the board of the Plum Street Temple Historic Preservation Fund, charged with the preservation and maintenance of the national historic landmark of Wise Temple.

The Tellers' planned gifts will provide scholarship support for deserving rabbinical students, as well as support the College-Institute's acclaimed faculty and treasured resources; and will serve as an endowment fund to Wise Temple.

#### **Val Schube**

#### Nominated by: Juvenile Diabetes Ressearch Foundation

A long-time donor and volunteer for JDRF Southwest Ohio, Val strongly supports the cause in her quest to find a cure for type 1 diabetes for her daughter and the millions of other people who live with this disease. Her dedication includes giving of her time, talent and resources. In addition to hosting events and serving on JDRF's Leadership Giving committee, she and her husband, Greg, have made a bequest to the cause as part of a formal planned giving program called the 'Beta Society'. Not only does Val give generously and annually to JDRF, her bequestion will fund critical necessary research. Thanks to the impact of the Leadership Giving Committee, last year the JDRF Southwest Ohio Chapter received the Excellence in Planned Giving Award from JDRF International for the fourth consecutive year, beating out 99 other chapters.

## Rick and Julie Kantor Nominated by: Jewish Federation of Cincinnati

Rick and Julie Kantor have been dedicated members of the Cincinnati Jewish community for many years; and are among the most loyal and generous donors to the Jewish Federation's Annual Community Campaign. And, in addition to their legacy provision as a bequest to the Federation, they have made legacy gifts to support the Isaac M. Wise Temple, Jewish Family Service, Mayerson JCC, as well as others in Greater Cincinnati. They are members of the Abraham Moss Society, which honors legacy donors who have made significant gifts throughout the Jewish community. Outside of their tremendous support of Cincinnati's Jewish community, their most recent endeavor is assisting with the revitalization of Zeigler Park.

# The Rev. Dr. Joseph and Blanch Graham Nominated by: Life Enriching Communities - Twin Towers

The Joseph and Blanch have supported Twin Towers prior to retirement, as well as today. Their involvement initially came about when Joseph was appointed minister to First United Methodist Church in

Hamilton, Ohio and came to visit his members who resided at Twin Towers. In 1983, he was appointed administrator at Twin Towers and retired in 1996. It was during his tenure as administrator when they made their original planned gift as a role model to others. Since 2012 when they moved in, they have also contributed through volunteering and resident leadership; and continue to generously give financial gifts throughout the year.

## **Donald L. Neyer**

#### Nominated by: Life Enriching Communities Foundation – Twin Lakes

A resident of Twin Lakes with his wife, Phyllis, Don enjoys giving of his talent, time and resources to benefit their friends and community. He serves on Twin Lakes' Finance Committee, as chair of the Central Campus for the past three years, and as a donor and advisor to the completion of a one-mile paved path between its North and Central campuses. Currently, Don serves on the Twin Lakes Expansion Committee and has pledged a significant gift to the fundraising efforts toward the construction of the Shirley M. Davies Community Center at Twin Lakes. As a member of the leadership team, he has worked diligently to secure gifts to help reach a goal of \$1.5 million for the project, leading by example with a significant gift.

This is not the first time Don has been recognized for outstanding efforts. Last year, he received "The Outstanding Caregiver of the Year" Award from The Hamilton County Council on Aging.

#### **Lawrence Klosterkemper**

## Nominated by: Mount St. Joseph University and Roger Bacon High School

A loyal alumni of both Mount St. Joseph University and Roger Bacon High School, Larry demonstrates his passion with annual contributions and a planned gift to both institutions. He established his scholarship fund at the Mount in 2011, allowing Mount students to focus on their academics with less concern for the cost. His first gifts not only provided financial aid to students, but also contributed to a challenge grant that helped raise the Mount's overall scholarship endowment and build a plaza on campus that is utilized daily by students.

Furthermore, his contact with a physical therapy student led him to begin giving at a more significant level. Each year Larry enjoys getting the thank you letters from the students who receive his scholarship. The Larry Klosterkemper Family Scholarship will become an endowed fund that will provide financial assistance to students who want to earn a Mount education for many years to come.

In 2011, Larry also established his scholarship at Roger Bacon. Annually, the Klosterkemper Scholarship provides three deserving students, who have an interest in physical therapy as a career, with over 50% of the tuition necessary to attend the High School. Larry enjoys meeting with his scholarship students to learn about their lives, goals and ambitions. At Roger Bacon, Larry also meets with the Veterans Group, attends the golf outing, annual auction, and other events.

## Jerry W. Warner, PhD

#### **Nominated by: Northern Kentucky University**

Jerry joined NKU as an assistant professor in biology in 1976 after completing his PhD at Texas Tech University. During his tenure until retiring in 2006, he served as associate dean of arts and science, chair

of the Department of Biological Sciences, and interim vice president for academic affairs and provost of the University.

He also spent over 27 years in the military as an officer in the US Army Corp of Engineers. His two years of active service included a tour in Vietnam, followed by 25 years in the US Army Reserves before retiring in 1994 at the rank of Colonel.

A believer in giving back, several years ago Jerry established an endowed scholarship in honor of his former major professor, Dr. Neil Douglas, at the University of Louisiana in Monroe, whom he credits for his entry into the world of academics. Needless to say, Dr. Douglas had a great influence on Jerrys life. Jerry sees NKU as a "great regional asset" and wants to be part of its continued growth. Thus, his gift will create the Jerry W. Warner Scholarship in Biological Sciences, supporting students with high academic capabilities who were not successful in getting a scholarship their first year.

#### **Bill and Helene Sedwick**

#### Nominated by: People Working Cooperatively (PWC)

Bill and Helene have been involved with PWC since 2002, shortly after his retirement from from Procter & Gamble as associate director of product development.

Since then, Bill has served as a PWC Field Service volunteer, working weekly on various projects. His volunteerism has also impacted PWC's capacity to serve clients through the major role he played in transforming a large garage into PWC's Community Room where many events and trainings occur. His efforts and the volunteers he recruited were instrumental in donating thousands of dollars in construction costs of this new facility.

Helene also has played a role in PWC's success over this timeframe. She is a regular participant in PWC's annual volunteer events, *Repair Affair* and *Prepare Affair*. Having been supporters of PWC's Annual Campaign since 2004 and possessing a love and passion for PWC's mission of keeping low-income elderly, disabled, and veteran individuals in their home, a planned gift through a bequest in their will was a natural next step in the Sedwicks legacy with PWC.

The organization was honored to welcome the Sedwicks into its 1975 Legacy Society, as their act of generosity through this legacy gift will provide critical, future support of PWC and ensure that home repairs, accessibility modifications, and energy conservation services will be available for low-income households.

#### Margaret (Tuck) Fraser\*

## Nominated by: Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Cincinnnati (RMH)

Margaret (Tuck) was both a dedicated volunteer and a major donor to Cincinnati's Ronald McDonald House for many years. She volunteered with life-long friend, Patty Galvin, working together to clean guest rooms, which would welcome families after long days at the hospital with their critically ill children. Tuck saw firsthand the oasis of respite and hope that Ronald McDonald House provides these families and knew just what it means to have love, support, and a good night's rest when parents are caring for children who are fighting for their lives.

Tuck also knew what it meant to be critically ill, fighting her own long battle with cancer. After her passing in 2014, RMH was informed that she left it over \$1.25 million through her IRA and trust. Cincinnati's RMH has already undergone two major expansions since it opened in 1982. However, the House continues to be full with a long waiting list. To honor Tuck's devotion to serving as many families as possible, her estate gifts are reserved in a special fund for an eventual future expansion of Cincinnati's Ronald McDonald House.

# Ursulines of Cincinnati

**Nominated by: Saint Ursula Academy** 

The Ursulines of Cincinnati founded Saint Ursula Academy back in 1910 – Women For All Seasons: The Ursulines of Cincinnati. The Ursulines of Cincinnati have served the people of Cincinnati since 1910, educating thousands of children in parish schools, as well as establishing and developing Saint Ursula Academy and Saint Ursula Villa. The Ursuline Sisters have been true to their roots by keeping the Academy thriving in the East Walnut Hills community for over 100 years and give back to their community.

Saint Ursula Academy recognizes the Ursulines of Cincinnati for their planned gifts of scholarships through their growing Endowment fund. They have made a commitment to continue the much needed financial aid to help students afford a Saint Ursula Academy and / or a Saint Ursula Villa education. Today the Sisters serve the community by responding to the needs of the times — active as well as contemplative. With a special devotion to women, they work in a variety of fields, joyfully committed to Christ and continuing the vision of Saint Angela Merici to bring the love and light of Christ to the world.

## Lisa O'Brien

#### **Nominated by: United Way of Greater Cincinnati**

Lisa O'Brien, a senior vice president for U.S. Bank, exemplifies dedication to our community through her generous outpouring of time, talent, and treasure. She has been a loyal contributor to United Way for well over a decade, having volunteered as a tax preparer for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and for a myriad of WINGs (Women Investing in the Next Generation) activities. Additionally, Lisa has served / is serving on numerous volunteer committees and cabinets – a few of which include: Campaign Cabinet, Vision Cabinet, Financial Stability Impact Cabinet, Founding Steering Committee Member of WINGs, Foundation Board member, and current Foundation Board Chair.

A few years ago, WINGs launched a new fund, Women's Leadership – Forever!, a collective endowment fund supporting UWGC's work far into the future. United Way's investment strategies have evolved over many decades. Today, UWGC builds relationships, develops partnerships and helps focus energies around kindergarten readiness, high school graduation and financial stability. The current focus of Women's Leadership – Forever! centers around sustaining this community impact. Not only has Lisa been a contributor to this fund with planned gift contributions, but she has been a tireless advocate for others to support it.

Dan and Julie Murphy Nominated by: Xavier University Dan and Julie (Jones) Murphy met as Xavier students, graduated together in 1985 and were married in Bellarmine Chapel – but it was another part of their mutual history that led them to endow the Murphy Family Scholarship for middle-income, public school students from Hamilton County. "It's our roots," said Dan. "Somewhere, somebody gave money so two public school kids who worked hard got a chance to attend a great university we could never have afforded. We wanted to give back, and we're hoping other people will do the same."

Julie and Dan both earned degrees in accounting from Xavier, and although their majors were in a more technical field, both of them appreciate the liberal arts aspects of their education. Dan had a very successful career in the business-coaching field, where he discovered his calling in life – to help small business owners have greater success and achieve a sense of balance in their lives. Julie is currently the CEO and founder of Benobe LLC, which has created a web-based and iPhone application that helps people from age 13 and up explore potential careers. According to Julie, "Xavier really taught me to open my eyes to the realm of possibility, and to challenge things in an effective manner, not to create chaos, but to create solutions."