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*McQuade*Times

Spotlight: Chopes grateful for McQuade Society's personal assistance

One of the most stressful times of your life is when you or a loved one is seriously ill. You are likely scared, emotional and in need of comfort.

Jennifer Chope and her family can attest to this. "The past six years can be compared to the most death-defying, thrilling amusement park ride ever for me and my parents—except for one thing...there has been no amusement with our ride," Jenny said. "But our saving grace has been the swift, efficient, outstanding medical and nursing care at St. John and the support of the McQuade Society and Beth Carter."

Jenny and her husband Bill, of Grosse Pointe Farms, attended the McQuade Society event in June (see story on page 2). Jenny spoke about the personal attention and services her family received throughout the illness of her father Fred Somes, who passed away in 2009, and for the ongoing care of her mother Eleanor. Jenny said that Beth, Donor Relations Manager, offered her family "the greatest personal service and comfort, whenever we needed it, on a moment's notice."

As McQuade Society members, the family could call Beth day or night and know that there would be:

- a personal escort and a team of skilled medical care staff waiting for their arrival at the hospital
- quick, expert evaluation and care in the Emergency Center
- a private bed waiting if admission was necessary
- 24-hour VIP dining service with guest meals
- complimentary valet parking
- assistance with scheduling and expediting outpatient services, and
- a "real person to call to get us to the right source if we had questions or concerns," Jenny said.

"Security, comfort and efficiency are priceless when your health is under attack," Jenny expressed. "The personal attention we received took so much weight off our shoulders and allowed us to just focus on the person in need. To feel secure and not like just a number in a huge facility like St. John is invaluable."

McQuade Society benefits allowed Jenny's family to use the hospital's concierge service, wait in a private, secure lounge with refreshments, cable TV and internet access, and have a place to hold family meetings to discuss care options at a most vulnerable time.

"My family and I see membership in the McQuade Society as not only helping ourselves but helping the entire community because our membership also contributes to the excellence of our neighborhood hospital, a win win for all," Jenny said.



Bill and Jenny Chope are highly satisfied McQuade Society members.

Special event builds awareness of McQuade Society

An informational cocktail reception for McQuade Society members and their invited friends drew 105 guests to the Country Club of Detroit on June 6 with the goal of creating more awareness about the society and the philanthropic needs of St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC).

Doug Blatt, Chair of St. John Providence Health System's East Region Board, a member of the St. John Health Foundation Board and a McQuade member, graciously served as emcee for the evening. Beth Carter, Donor Relations Manager, spoke about the society's history, how to qualify for membership and services provided to members. In addition, McQuade members Jennifer Chope and Jane Nugent gave testimonials on how they have been assisted through the society's services (see story on page 1), and Dr. Tom LaLonde shared what McQuade philanthropy has meant to SJH&MC.

Informational posters were also displayed for guests to learn more about SJH&MC and areas recently funded by philanthropic support including the:

- Elaine E. Blatt Endoscopy Department
- Cracchiolo Inpatient Rehabilitation Center
- St. John Guild Emergency Center
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (coming soon)
- Stroke Center of Excellence, nationally certified
- Gretchen C. Valade Cardiovascular Hybrid Operating Room
- Valade Gym, Education Center and Spa
- Van Elslander Cancer Center



Dr. Thomas LaLonde, Gene LoVasco, Chair of St. John Health Foundation Board; Dr. Rojan Samudrala and Dr. Mohammed Barawi



Dr. Sanjay Batra and Gretchen C. Valade



Susan and Ken Kirchner and Melodie Scherer



Mary Ann Van Elslander, Mary Lamparter and Pat Anton



Julie Martin, James Schroth, Yvette Saravolatz and Dr. Louis Saravolatz



Derek and Cress Meier and Howard and Beth Crane

The event culminated in a number of new members joining the McQuade Society, with their donations bringing substantial support to the hospital, and several others expressing a strong interest in membership.

"The strength of the McQuade Society reflects on the strength of SJH&MC as our donors enable it to be a state-of-the-art medical facility and a leader in health care," said Susan Burns, President, St. John Providence Health System Foundations. "Enhancing the bond between the hospital and our donors and increasing McQuade membership are important to the future of the hospital and the health of the community."