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*McQuade*Times

Spotlight: Russells praise McQuade Society and St. John Hospital

While Scott and Elena Russell have only been members since last year, they can't say enough about the McQuade Society and the services it has provided for their family.

"When my father was ill and at St. John for his care, we were grateful for the extra attention he received from Beth Carter and the assistance he got for all of his needs," Scott said. "We got to know Beth very well during his illness; her calm, reassuring manner

and support made a difficult time easier and less stressful."

Before his death from pancreatic cancer at age 88, Thomas Russell, Scott's father, was devoted to St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC) through his role as a member of the St. John Health System Foundation Board of Trustees and his philanthropic gifts. A hardworking businessman, he rose through the ranks to become chairman and CEO of

Federal-Mogul Corp., a multi-national manufacturer and distributor of automotive, industrial and aerospace parts. Tom was on the boards of several organizations when, in his 60s, he wanted to learn more about hospital work and access to health care, so he got involved with the St. John board.

"We saw the good things my father was able to accomplish at St. John through his volunteer efforts and financial contributions," said Scott, who recently retired after more than 30 years in public relations and corporate marketing communications. "He was devoted to the hospital and cancer center, so when my father was ill, he wanted to have hospice care at St. John where he felt great comfort. We saw firsthand how he reaped the benefits of the McQuade Society."

After witnessing Tom's care and receiving years of care themselves, the Russells are big proponents of SJH&MC. When Scott, now 56, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma around his 40th birthday, the couple visited the Mayo Clinic, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and University of Michigan Health System to find the

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Scott and Elena Russell

Members enjoy McQuade Reception

At the annual McQuade Reception, members were thanked for their support of St. John Providence Health System (SJPHS) and updated by administrators on important initiatives taking place in the health system. Jean Meyer, Interim President and CEO, SJPHS, spoke about the strategy teams preparing for health care reform. She focused on the team developing a full continuum of care for patients in non-hospital settings, e.g., outpatient centers, physician offices and long-term acute and skilled care facilities. She also highlighted the team working to improve the patient experience across the continuum. In addition, David Brooks, President and CEO, St. John Hospital and Medical Center, provided an update on the new Centers of Excellence, Minimally Invasive Surgery and Orthopedics, and projects including the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit expansion.



Jackie Thoreson, Candace Huetteman, Beth Carter (behind), Jane Nugent, Sharon Burke and Bettejean Ahee



Kurt Tech, Lawrence Ghannam and Carole Tech



Roland Rinke, Susan Burns and Walter Cytacki



Antoine and Beline Obeid with David and Laura Brooks



Robert Vallee, Hugh Harness and James Danaher



Jean Meyer



Joe and Marlene Foerster



Margaret and Dan Grady with Joan and William Gehrke



Dr. Joseph Beals, Dr. Louis Saravolatz and Dr. Frank Wilson



Dr. William Rice and Dr. Virginia Rice, Gabe (behind) and Pat Anton, Mary and Ron Lamparter, and Ardis and Raymond Gardella

Spotlight: Russells *Continued from page 1*

right treatment. They ended up right back at St. John. “The level of care here is the best; there is no reason to travel,” Elena said.

For Scott, Dr. Ayad Al-Katib, Medical Director of Oncology and Section Chief of Hematology, was the answer. “When I was diagnosed, my father searched the country to find the foremost lymphoma specialist. He was instrumental in bringing Dr. Al-Katib to St. John. That was the best gift he ever gave me,” Scott said.

“It’s great to have this hospital and cancer center in our community. It’s the best, but many people living nearby don’t realize how good it is or take for granted that it is right in our backyard,” Elena said.

Scott’s father passed away in June 2012 and his mother, Ruth, just six months before that. Added to Scott’s 12+ years of treatment and check-ups, he has had double hip surgery and, most recently, knee replacement surgery and physical rehabilitation at SJH&MC. “Our family has had more

than our share of illnesses and far too many St. John experiences,” Elena said. “But we are grateful for the care we’ve received and won’t go anywhere else.

“The McQuade Society services are wonderful,” she continued. “Whether it’s the middle of the night and we are scared or during business hours, one call to Beth and we are reassured that someone will meet us when we arrive at the hospital and our care will begin immediately. Having somebody you recognize and can count on to help you through the uncertain hospital experience is invaluable. The concierge-like services of the society make hospital stays much easier.”

“It was a natural progression for us to join the McQuade Society,” Scott said. “We wanted to continue my father’s legacy of giving to St. John and get involved with the hospital and cancer center that we rely on for our care.”

Even before the Russells’ donation made them eligible for McQuade Society membership, Scott was an ambassador for SJH&MC. Extremely



grateful to Dr. Al-Katib for his care, Scott spoke at a “Journey to Excellence” oncology event for the community in 2009 and was instrumental in influencing others to support the lymphoma program.

The Russells initially thought they would continue to support Oncology services with their gift, but they chose to direct their support to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit expansion and renovation because of the immediate need. They remind others that they can support any area at SJH&MC with their gifts. And now that they’ve seen the benefits the McQuade Society can provide, the Russells proclaim that membership is priceless.

Membership reminder

Membership in the McQuade Society is available to our benefactors and most loyal supporters to thank you for your generous, charitable commitment to SJH&MC. Beth Carter is available to members 24 hours a day to help navigate your health services to ensure your complete satisfaction when using the hospital.

Please remember services are for members only. You may refer your friends to us for membership if they wish to enjoy member privileges.

Thanks to your assistance, membership in the McQuade Society has grown. When you refer your friends and family, it is the highest compliment to us. To make it easier to share information about how to qualify for McQuade membership, details are located at <http://www.stjohnprovidence.org/McQuadeSociety> and in brochures available from Beth (313-343-4602) or the St. John Health Foundation (313-343-7480).