



Catholic Eldercare

CONNECTIONS

Fall 2022



**Jerry Hartlaub and Trish Strauss Hartlaub
give the gift of St. Anthony Garden**

Appealing Stories with Heart and Gratitude



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Giving is in the Heart of the Hartlaubs

Catholic Eldercare is eternally grateful for the gifts of Jerry Hartlaub and Trish Strauss Hartlaub.

Faithful, humble, and unpretentious, the Hartlaub's are quick to step back and highlight all the other people who donate money, time, and talent to Catholic Eldercare. However, their commitment to our mission is clear in their generous on-going donations that continue to bless the lives of residents within our senior communities.

At the heart of the Hartlaub's giving is their soft spot for Northeast Minneapolis. Trish grew up in the love and care of her parents and Polish immigrant grandparents, just eight blocks from Catholic Eldercare. "There's something about Northeast," she says. "As soon as someone says they're from here, there's an immediate connection. It was a little town in a big town. Everything I needed was in Northeast, and it was my home."

Jerry grew up in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, the son of a carpenter who modeled a strong work ethic to his son. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and after some time at Honeywell, landed at Medtronic. There he improved the function of the cardiac pacemaker and other implantable medical devices, resulting in 42 US medical device patents. He took his medical device expertise to surgical suites in Europe and Asia, supporting physicians performing medical procedures.

Now retired, Jerry and Trish, a former teacher, are very happy to help Catholic Eldercare create St. Anthony Garden. Their financial support ranges from memorials to benches to this beautiful new garden and shrine, dedicated on September 9th. The project began when the Hartlaub's provided funding for a fountain that Jerry helped design, utilizing his engineering background.



Jerry and Trish Hartlaub outside St. Anthony of Padua in 1965

"I wanted to make sure the water would drop a significant distance, making a soothing, splashing sound everybody could hear," he says.

St. Anthony Garden is a blessing to the Northeast Minneapolis neighborhood where Trish grew up, on the property where she celebrated the milestones of her life. Trish and Jerry's wedding photos were taken where St. Anthony Garden now stands. "I was baptized, confirmed, educated, and married on this property. My mom volunteered at Catholic Eldercare, she was cared for here, and she passed away here. These grounds are special to me."

Trish says her mom blossomed at Catholic Eldercare because she was no longer living alone. "Mom found a community in Mainstreet Lodge. She couldn't see well, but she made a friend who couldn't hear well, so they helped each other, and the friendship was beneficial for both. I believe in the mission of Catholic Eldercare, and the people there have hearts of gold. Taking care of seniors in our community is important. We want the people we love to be cared for."

Trish and Jerry describe themselves as simple people who don't usually share their gifting experiences. "We've been frugal throughout our lives, but we've enjoyed what's important to us, educating our children and grandchildren, being with family, and having many enriching worldwide travel experiences together," says Trish. "Who would have thought that a little Polish girl from Northeast and a little boy from Wisconsin would swim in the Mediterranean Sea, walk on the Great Wall of China, or sleep in a tent in the Sahara Desert? We were blessed to have these experiences because of Jerry's education, hard work, and planning. It's also the



The Hartlaubs in St. Anthony Garden in 2022

reason we can give to Catholic Eldercare.”

The Hartlaubs want St. Anthony Garden to be a natural space for relaxation and reflection.

“Appreciating nature is life giving. We’d like Catholic Eldercare residents, their families and Eldercare neighbors to appreciate nature while they enjoy this beautiful garden and shrine.”

—Jerry Hartlaub

For Trish, it’s also about a little Polish girl from Northeast honoring all family members in the place they called home.

Catholic Eldercare would like to thank all whose donations made St. Anthony Garden possible. Your gifts have resulted in a beautiful and natural space that will be treasured for generations to come.

Meet Our New Board Chair

We are pleased to introduce **Nancy Utoft**, as chair of our Board of Directors. Nancy has served on the Board of Catholic Eldercare for almost four years and has now stepped into the chair position.

Humbled by her new role, Nancy says, “Al Hoftstede led the Board well during his term as chair. I’m honored to now serve in this position and continue to work with him and all Board members in supporting Greg Baumberger and the staff. They are carrying out Catholic Eldercare’s 3-year strategic plan, which is incredibly important, and we will provide the support they need.”

Non-profit work has been the focus of the latter half of Nancy’s career, including experience with Catholic organizations. Her connection with Catholic Eldercare was motivated by her work with Senior Services Consortium of Ramsey County, where she helped older adults age well in their home. She grew up in Northeast Minneapolis and her mother lived in Mainstreet Lodge and eventually moved into the care center, so she also brings a family perspective. “I can see the smiles in the eyes of staff above the masks as they serve residents. The staff works hard and provides beautiful care with dignity, meeting each person’s individual needs,” says Nancy. “This approach—seeing the dignity in each person—flows from our Catholic identity and offers a holistic approach to service.”

Nancy is heartened by the approach that Greg and senior staff take in leading the organization. “Attending to the physical health of our residents is, of course, preeminent, but it’s also about emotional and spiritual wellbeing. There is a way to live well, no matter what your situation is, and that is our goal.”



St. Anthony Garden Dedication

September 9, 2022



Father John Bauer blesses the garden with CEC Chaplain David Liedl

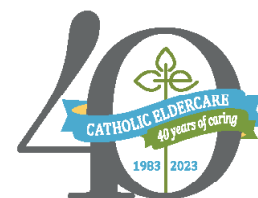


Garden donors David Ryan, the Hartlaubs, and Catholic Eldercare leadership staff cut the ribbon with CEO Greg Baumberger.



Left to right: Patricia Strauss Hartlaub, Jerry Hartlaub, Foundation Director Tom Glass, Garden Landscaper Eric Baldus and daughter Iver

Watch for news on our **40th Anniversary Celebration** and special events, and the anniversary edition of Connections.



Gratitude for **Al Hofstede**

As Al Hofstede finishes his term as chair of the Catholic Eldercare Board of Directors, we say, thank you. Al led us through the creation of a 3-year strategic plan that is vital to our organization. He also steered us through the pandemic, and subsequent workforce adaptations. We have greatly benefited from Al's knowledge, talent, professionalism, and heart for this work. Al is a champion for Catholic Eldercare and will continue to help guide us and bless us through his continued service on our Board of Directors. THANK YOU, AL.



Love and Care Across Cultures

When civil war broke out in Liberia in 1989, a teenage girl fled her home when the militia came to her village and banged on the door. Because she could not return to her home in her occupied village, she was unable to reunite with her parents.

In August of this year, that teenager's 89-year-old mother made the trip of a lifetime. After more than 30 years of searching, she found her daughter in Liberia, and traveled there to reunite, and meet her grandchildren.

This is just one of the stories within Catholic Eldercare's Adult Day Program, and one of many from Liberia. Filled with multicultural experiences from around the world, participants say they've become a family, and their stories educate and bless each other every day. Some come to the program to prevent isolation, others need physical stimulation to stay strong and stay in their homes, and 50% are living with Alzheimer's or dementia.



Clyde with Adult Day Program Director Roxy Tietz

There is a master gardener from the Philippines, and others who fled Liberia. They share their stories and introduce their adult day friends to their native clothing and ceremonial dance. And they talk of war, something that 12 participating veterans understand, having lived through war themselves. Clyde is one of those veterans who begins his day at Catholic Eldercare with the Pledge of Alliance with his multicultural friends. "The day program honors our veterans day in and day out!"

Program Director Roxy Tietz, LPN says, "Supporting one another is a daily activity here. Those who are alert and oriented, lend a hand to those with cognitive challenges. No one is a stranger, and everyone feels loved."



Four Decades of Love and Care in Northeast Minneapolis

On a ski lift in Vail in 1972, Tom Glodek looked at Al Hofstede Sr., who had just won the mayoral race in Minneapolis and said, "Albert, we need to build a nursing

home. We need to take care of our family members and neighbors in Northeast." Unbeknownst to the two skiers, that vacation moment would become the founding discussion of Catholic Eldercare.

The establishment of Catholic Eldercare was an 8-year process that began with Tom and Al, two kids who grew up in St. Anthony of Padua parish. With the help of Sister Ruth, Bob Hannah, and many others, they launched four decades of caring for the elderly in

Northeast Minneapolis. "We all came out of Northeast, and we had an allegiance to each other to make it happen to meet the needs of the people," says Tom. "And we made sure there was a church connection, so people could live their faith while living out their life with dignity."

Watch for the full story of the founding of Catholic Eldercare in the 40th Anniversary issue of Connections Magazine, available in February of 2023. As we celebrate 40 years, we will introduce you to the people who played a vital role in our beginnings, including Sr. Ruth Roland who said, "We've got to do it. God will take care of us." We will share stories of vision, commitment, and relentless dedication to opening our doors in 1983.



We Need **Your Help**

Give a gift to:

- Enrich the lives of our residents.
- Support our loving and compassionate caregivers.
- Bless our community spaces and places.

And if after reading our stories, you're still wondering if you gift makes a difference....

"I'm a dispenser of joy because laughter and good humor are the clearest example of the presence of God." —*David Liedl, CEC Chaplain*

"I help people have a beautiful ending to the rest of their life." —*Tracey Franklin, RN/Memory Care*



Frannie and Sr. Louis Marie

"I love my job and I love our residents. We spend time together and we've become friends."

—*Frannie Tolf, Resident Service Coordinator/
Mainstreet Lodge*

Ageless Spirit Fund

Enhance the lives of all our residents, at every level of care, by funding programs such as our chaplaincy, art, music therapy and more life-enriching services.

Benevolence Fund

There is a growing need to help people who through no fault of their own find themselves at financial risk. Wish them well with a gift to provide the financial assistance they need to remain in their assisted living apartments, where they are currently thriving.

St. Anthony of Padua Chapel Society

Help us meet the spiritual needs of our community by giving to this fund, with a goal of funding salaries, benefits, and the pastoral care program.



We invite you to send a personal check in the enclosed envelope, or click to give online via the QR code. You can also get to our donation page in just three steps:

1. Go to **catholiceldercare.org**
2. Click on "**giving**"
3. Click on **give a gift online today**