

The Sentinel-Record
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Solace Found in Fund Honoring Wife

By Ann Carrithers
Executive Director

Hot Springs Area Community Foundation
(An Affiliate of the Arkansas Community Foundation)

Nancy Hellman was a third-grade teacher. She was a beloved and enthusiastic educator. Cancer struck when Nancy was only 41. She died last April, leaving a grief-stricken husband, Jeff, and two sons.

Immediately following her funeral, a young student of Nancy's approached Jeff and said, "Mrs. Hellman was always helping students. I'm going to miss her."

Later that evening, Jeff's thoughts wandered to the young man. The student's words, like a mantra, went over and over in his mind, "Mrs. Hellman was always helping students."

The next morning, Jeff, with sons in tow, spoke to Nancy's parents about his need to continue Nancy's job of helping students. Together, they set up a scholarship fund in her honor. Friends, fellow teachers, neighbors, club and church members began sending contributions to the Nancy Hellman Scholarship Fund. To date, more than 65 persons have responded with donations that will allow Nancy to keep helping students.

By using the Community Foundation, Jeff had the expertise of staff that has established dozens of scholarships – many were created to honor a loved one. There are no legal fees to create a fund, and they can be approved in days. Do you know someone whose work needs to continue? Call Hot Springs Area Community Foundation, 321-8193, for information.

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Endowment Fund Gift That Keeps On Giving Permanently

By Ann Carrithers
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Robert Kennedy is a married Baby Boomer, 45 years old. His sister, Kate, is two years younger, married and living in Maine.

Their parents are both 75, and living “the good life.” In other words, they planned for retirement and have the money to enjoy traveling and their hobbies. They lead an active life centered around friends, church and volunteer work.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy announced some time ago, and with certainty, that they did not want a party to celebrate their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary. Some time ago, they made arrangements for an Alaskan cruise, which is exactly how they wanted to mark this occasion.

Robert and Kate had many phone and email discussions considering an appropriate gift. Their parents really didn’t need “things.” Finally, an idea appealed to Robert. Why not set up a fund in their honor? Kate liked the idea.

The Thomas and Betty Kennedy Family Endowment Fund was created in honor of their parents. The income will be used to support their church’s music ministry and their local symphony orchestra. All members of the family can participate by adding to the fund on birthdays, anniversaries or other special occasions.

Robert and Kate told their parents following a small, private, family dinner at a local restaurant. They hoped their parents would be pleased, but they were astounded at their parents’ reaction. With tears in their eyes, they hugged each child.

Thomas Kennedy said, “There is nothing you could have done to please us more. Your thoughtfulness makes us very happy.” Betty added, “This gift will keep on giving after we’re all gone. Thank you, thank you.”

Do you know someone – perhaps your parents or children – who deserves a permanent gift given in their name to a favorite charity? Call the HSACF at 321-8193. We can help you create that gift.