

LEGACY OF HOPE.

WINTER 2019



A CHARITABLE AND GIFT PLANNING GUIDE FOR THE BARBARA ANN KARMANOS CANCER INSTITUTE

MAGGIE ALLESEE: A KEY TOWARD FINDING A CURE

“The point of supporting a place like Karmanos is to help find treatments and cures for this disease, which affects so many people,” says Maggie Allesee.

Charitable work has long been integral to Maggie’s life. Actually, it began at age 4, when Maggie’s mother became treasurer of the St. Petersburg (Florida) Junior League.

“Most of the donations we received were coins,” says Maggie, a Bloomfield Hills resident. “My mother put me in charge of putting all the nickels, dimes and quarters into piles.”

Philanthropy remains central to Maggie, who celebrated her 90th birthday in September. Since moving to the Detroit area in 1969, she’s supported scores of organizations and institutions with her time, treasure and talent. For the better part of four decades, patients, physicians and researchers at the Karmanos Cancer Institute have benefited tremendously from her generosity.

“Karmanos isn’t just known for treating the most common cancers, they have a wide variety of multidisciplinary teams that treat lesser-known cancer types,” Maggie says.

Maggie truly understands cancer’s impact on families. Her first husband died from a brain tumor at age 46, leaving her alone to raise three children. That experience fueled her drive to support cancer care and research.

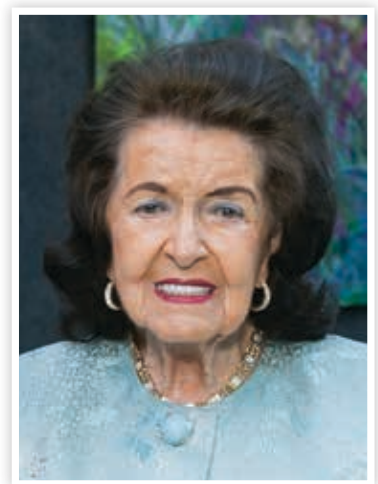
During the era when Karmanos was known as the Michigan Cancer Foundation, Maggie began supporting the Circle of Fellows and the Annual Dinner events.

Over the years, she expanded her support to include the Angels

Event, the Partners annual gala and golf event, the Cancer Care and Cure campaign, the Building a Cancer-Free Future campaign, and the New Directors Recruitment Fund. Maggie’s support throughout the years has helped spearhead the work still happening today — drug discovery, expansion of cancer services throughout southeastern Michigan and the advancement of cancer research.

Maggie also was one of the key organizers for the popular Circle the South Walk event at the Oakland Hills Country Club, which raised more than \$50,000 over four years.

“As a club member, I obtained permission to hold the event, which included the opportunity to walk the grounds of the beautiful, world-famous golf course — something not ordinarily offered to the public,” Maggie says. “The event also included a luncheon and a silent auction. People really enjoyed it and supporting the fabulous work done at Karmanos.” Today, Karmanos’ Planned Giving Advisory Committee hosts the annual



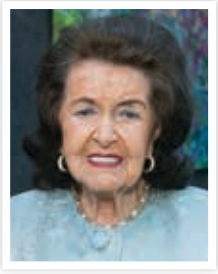
➤ [Maggie Allesee](#)



CANCER INSTITUTE

Wayne State University

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MAGGIE ALLESEE: A KEY TOWARD FINDING A CURE

Continued from front page

Estate Planning Professionals' Breakfast at the Oakland Hills Country Club.

“Serving on boards is a great way to expand your philanthropic investment,” Maggie says. “As a board member at Karmanos, I became even more familiar with patients’ needs, different diseases and how funding helps research scientists. It helped me feel more closely connected to the overall Karmanos mission.”

“It feels good knowing you’re helping people, even patients you’ll never have the chance to meet.”

– Maggie Allesee

The Detroit Athletic Club recently honored Maggie with a Lifetime Achievement Award, citing her exemplary service and mentorship.

To help celebrate the achievements of beloved Karmanos physician, researcher and educator Dr. Vainutis Vaitkevicius (known affectionately as Dr. Vee), Maggie and her husband, Bob, who she met at a cancer fundraiser which he was co-chairing, generously supported the Dr. Vee: Celebrating 50 Golden Years in Medicine event in 2001.

The Allesees also made a legacy gift as members of the Dr. Vee Legacy of Hope Society, ensuring their tremendous generosity will continue impacting cancer patients, physicians and researchers into the future. The Dr. Vee Legacy of Hope Planned Giving Society honors friends who demonstrate their deep commitment to the organization’s legacy and future by including Karmanos Cancer Institute in their will, trust or estate plan.

“I truly enjoy helping Karmanos, which is so important for the health of our community, the nation and the world,” Maggie says. “It feels good knowing you’re helping people, even patients you’ll never have the chance to meet.”

“Donors are the key to Karmanos’ success. It’s wonderful to be one of the many small keys that help researchers make scientific advancements against cancer.”

➤ To learn more about ways you can join Maggie as a member of the Dr. Vee Legacy of Hope Planned Giving Society, and make an impact at Karmanos, contact the Office of Planned Giving at 313.573.8115.



“The kindness and professional skills of all your staff gives the patients hope and courage when they need it most.”

– Kathleen Levillier, Donor and Breast Cancer Survivor

PAY TRIBUTE TO SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT WHILE SUPPORTING KARMANOS

Add a name to our recognition panel on the main floor of our cancer hospital. Our **“Wall of Hope”** is a heartfelt way to honor a loved one, friend, colleague or a special caregiver while helping to advance cancer care and research at the Institute. You may inscribe a meaningful message of hope, gratitude or inspiration to your honoree. Individual plaque options are \$3,000 for a three-inch plaque; \$5,000 for a five-inch plaque; or \$10,000 for a seven-inch plaque.

➤ For more information, please contact the Development Office at 313.573.8115.



PLANNED GIVING BREAKFAST

The Karmanos Planned Giving Advisory Committee hosted its annual Estate Planning Professionals' Breakfast last spring for an attentive crowd of metro Detroit's financial and estate planners. The annual breakfast provides an opportunity for financial and estate planners to hear firsthand the exceptional patient care and cutting-edge research at Karmanos. The information shared provides another tool for planners to communicate with their clients when they're considering an estate gift.

Richard Gabrys, Karmanos Cancer Institute board chair, welcomed the attendees; while Katrina Studvent, Karmanos' chief development officer, and Jeffrey Forman, M.D., FACR, medical director of Development, thanked planners for their support and encouraged them to discuss with their clients the impact of gifts to Karmanos.

On arrival, guests had the opportunity to view the artwork of Karen Balousek, a cancer survivor and participating artist in Karmanos' Healing Arts program. Healing Arts is just one program that has been established and continues to thrive because of legacy giving. At Karmanos, patients have the opportunity to participate in many integrative therapies, which provide the extra care and support beyond the medicine, enhancing the quality of life for cancer patients.

Joseph Uberti, M.D., Ph.D., Karmanos division chief of Hematology and co-director Bone Marrow Transplant; and professor, Wayne State University School of Medicine, presented one of the newest developments in cancer care: chimeric antigen receptor or CAR T-cell therapy. Karmanos Cancer Institute was the first cancer center in Michigan to offer CAR-T therapy for an aggressive type of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. CAR-T therapy is a type of immunotherapy made

from a patient's own white blood cells, which are genetically modified to recognize and attack the patient's cancer cells.

The keynote speaker was Anthony F. Shields, M.D., Ph.D., associate center director of Clinical Sciences, Karmanos Cancer Institute, and professor in the Department of Oncology, Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Shields spoke on the "Use of Genomics in Personalized Targeted Therapy." His presentation detailed that each human is unique – with his/her own biological and genetic characteristics, making each cancer unique with its own molecular characteristics.

"I am living proof that you can co-exist with cancer, but it takes the work of a lot of committed people to make that possible."

– Michael Benninger, Chronic Myeloid Leukemia Survivor

Michael Benninger, a Karmanos patient and chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) survivor, was the guest speaker at the breakfast. Michael was diagnosed with CML in 1999, at the age of 46. Married and a father of twin 17-year-old sons at the time, Michael was focused on living. He qualified for a clinical trial at Karmanos, which he remained on for nearly 10 years until the trial was no longer effective. Following the trial, Michael's physician was able to offer him a new drug, which Michael remains on today. Currently, Michael is showing no signs of cancer.

He concluded by thanking his talented medical team at Karmanos, "I am living proof that you can coexist with cancer, but it takes the work of a lot of committed people to make that possible."

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PLANNED GIVING:

WHY IT IS CRITICAL.

Planning for the future is always a good idea, no matter where you are in life. As an example, Karmanos relies on the foresight of those who include a gift to us in their financial or estate plans. These planned gifts can be made now to immediately support our research, or they can take effect in the future as a final way to leave your legacy. Here are a few popular giving options:

- **Gift of appreciated securities.** If you've owned stock for more than a year, and it's increased in value, you may donate the stock directly to us. You may receive an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value of your gift when you itemize and eliminate capital gains tax.
- **Gift in your will or revocable living trust.** This can be as simple as including a sentence in your will or living trust. Because this gift doesn't go into effect until after your lifetime, your current budget isn't affected, and you can change your mind at any time.
- **Gift of retirement plan assets.** By naming Karmanos as the primary beneficiary on the beneficiary designation form for a percentage (1-100) of your account's final value, you can make a tax-wise gift to support us after your lifetime.

SAMPLE LANGUAGE TO USE

If you are ready to include a gift to Karmanos in your will, ask your attorney to add this suggested wording to the document: *"I give to Karmanos Cancer Institute, Detroit, Michigan, the sum of \$_____ (or _____ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) for its general purposes."*

Contact the Office of Planned Giving at 313.573.8115 or johnsoli@karmanos.org and we'll help you get started with creating a plan that protects the important people and causes in your life.



CANCER INSTITUTE

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Mission: To lead in transformative cancer care, research and education through courage, commitment and compassion.