

LEGACY *of hope*

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



BARBARA ANN
Karmanos
CANCER INSTITUTE
Wayne State University

SPRING 2017

Leah's Lasting Legacy

The stress and anxiety that comes with a cancer diagnosis, combined with multiple tests and treatments, can be very draining on patients. Leah Davidson understood that very well.

For 11 years, Leah valiantly battled non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and leukemia. But stem cell transplants and frequent medical appointments didn't keep her from impacting the lives of fellow cancer patients.

During treatment, in 2002, Leah helped start the Women's Support Group at the Karmanos Cancer Institute's Weisberg Treatment Center in Farmington Hills. She also became very interested in meditation techniques and reiki (a Japanese stress reduction technique that promotes healing).

These complementary therapies helped Leah—a speech therapist and vibrant young grandmother—maintain her energy and positive outlook. Then she took things a step further. Leah teamed with Karmanos' Oncology Social Worker Kathleen Hardy to launch a Healing Arts program at the

Weisberg Center. Leah led classes in meditation, reiki and guided imagery (a technique focusing on mental images to promote relaxation).

"Leah never did anything halfway," Hardy said. "She was a brilliant woman, a devoted student and practitioner of the healing arts, and a tremendous voluntary force."

In September 2011, doctors informed Leah her disease had progressed and her time was limited. She and her husband of 41 years, Jeff, discussed planned giving options.

"Leah had a lot of inner strength, which enabled her to teach meditation and reiki," said Jeff, president of Taubman Ventures Management. "When we discussed her legacy in the last few months of her life, Leah had the wonderful idea of creating a fund to support the



Leah Davidson battled non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and leukemia for 11 years.

Healing Arts program. She wanted to help future cancer patients discover the integrative therapies she found so helpful."

Shortly after Leah passed away in December 2011 at age 62, Jeff created the Leah A. Davidson

Continued on next page

Inside

Leonard N. Simons' Legacy Continues | With a Will, There's a Way

Planned Giving Advisory Committee Members

Charles Nida, Honigman Miller
Schwartz and Cohn, LLP—
Committee Chair

Gary Bice, UBS

Astrid Braeuer, BDO USA, LLP

Lawrence Brown, CPA

Laura Brownfield, Bodman PLC

Michael Cicchella, Cicchella and
Associates LLC

Michael G. Cumming, Dykema

John Dankovich, MKD Wealth
Coaches, LLC

Mari Anne Guidobono, Merrill Lynch
Trust Company/Bank of America

W. Theodore Huebner

Mark Jannott, Oxford Bank

Dawn R. Jinsky, Plante Moran, PLLC

Mallory A. Kallabat, Clark Hill

Robert Kass, Barris Sott Denn &
Driker, PLLC

Bernard Kent, Schechter Investment
Advisors, LLC

Kenneth Konop, Miller, Canfield,
Paddock & Stone, PLC

Judy Fertel Layne, Dickinson
Wright, PLLC

Henry P. Lee, Howard & Howard

Marguerite Munson Lentz,
Bodman PLC

Christopher M. Mann, Dawda, Mann,
Mulcahy & Sadler, PLC

Mary Mansfield, Honigman Miller
Schwartz and Cohn LLP

Lynn L. Marine-Adams, Marine
Adams Law, PC

Tammy Moncrief, Yeo & Yeo

Mary Nichols, Comerica Bank
Wealth Management

Nicholas E. Papisifakis, Clark Hill

Mark W. Rheaume, PNC
Wealth Management

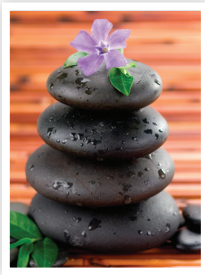
Scott Schropp, Merrill Lynch

Brian Simmons, Baker Tilly Virchow
Krause, LLP

James Studinger, JP Studinger Group

Nancy Vella, Deloitte Tax LLP

Ronald J. Zadora, Monaghan, P.C.



Leah's Lasting Legacy

Continued from front page

Endowment Fund. Gifts to the fund support integrative therapies used with cancer

treatments to treat the whole patient—mind, body and spirit. To date, generous donors have made nearly 900 gifts, raising more than \$300,000 for Healing Arts programs.

The funds allowed the program to hire licensed group leaders, and add art, music and massage therapies as well as yoga. Last year, more than 1,000 patients attended these free classes, which are open to all cancer patients regardless of where they receive treatment.

"It's hard to run a Healing Arts program consistently with only volunteers," Hardy said. "But Leah and Jeff's vision, supported by generous donors, enabled us to provide classes regularly and expand our offerings. Patient interest is extremely high and our classes are

usually full. People in the program still talk about Leah and how she continues to impact their lives."

"What began as a fledgling endeavor is now a major program," said Jeff, who has since remarried and continues to support the fund with his wife, Beth. "We're extremely grateful to everyone who's made a donation."

Beth added that she and Jeff would like to see the program continue to grow.

"Integrative therapies are invaluable for promoting healing and decreasing patient anxiety," she said. "We hope the program will continue to be a model for integrated therapies and help more patients. So many have been touched by Leah's legacy—we hope people will remember the fund as they plan their future donations."



HEALING ARTS...

To make a gift to the Leah A. Davidson Endowment Fund supporting the Healing Arts program, visit karmanos.org/leahfund or call 313.576.8110. For more information about program offerings, contact Kathleen Hardy at 248.538.4712 or hardyk@karmanos.org.



REFLECTIONS AT 75

“I have always believed that life’s greatest satisfaction comes from realizing your own capabilities as fully as possible—for the benefit of others.”

— Leonard N. Simons
July 24, 1979

Leonard N. Simons Award for Exemplary Research and Scholarly Achievement

During his lifetime, Leonard N. Simons’ far reaching influence significantly benefitted nonprofit organizations in the Detroit metropolitan area and the impact of his efforts continues today. A prominent advertising executive and volunteer leader, Mr. Simons enthusiastically served his community and was an effective fundraiser for numerous causes ranging from education and medicine to social service.

In tribute to Leonard Simons, the Leonard N. Simons Cancer Research Endowment was established at Karmanos Cancer Institute in 1974. Today, under the guidance of his daughter, Mary Lou Zieve, this endowment will support the newly established **Leonard N. Simons Award for Exemplary Research and Scholarly Achievement** in the prestigious Cancer Biology Graduate Program at Karmanos and Wayne State University. The first Leonard N. Simons Fellow will be named this spring.

“My father was an industrious advocate for our community, helping to raise millions of dollars for worthy causes,” says Mary Lou. “For more than 50 years, he was actively engaged with the Michigan Cancer Foundation/Karmanos Cancer Institute, so creating this award in his name is very fulfilling. I think he would be honored to know that his lifelong commitment to research and education will continue to inspire the next generation of scientists in perpetuity.”



If you are interested in supporting the Leonard N. Simons Cancer Research Endowment or would like to learn more about creating your own legacy through an endowment fund, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at 313.576.8102.

“Karmanos Cancer Institute has been a grateful beneficiary of the philanthropic endeavors of Leonard Simons,” says Larry Matherly, Ph.D., director of the Cancer Biology Graduate Program. “We are fortunate to be able to preserve his legacy through the formation of the Leonard N. Simons Fellow’s Award.”



With a Will, There's a Way

Spring is the perfect time to consider what you can do to shape the future for your family as well as others in the community. If momentous events like a milestone birthday, the arrival of a grandchild or retirement arise in the coming months, use this opportunity to celebrate and reflect on where your family has been and what the future might hold.



START AT THE BEGINNING

Create a will. Through this important document, you can direct the division of your property the way you choose. If Karmanos Cancer Institute has been important in your life, you can also include a gift to support our research and care.



GO A STEP FURTHER

If supporting Karmanos Cancer Institute is a part of your future plans, share your intentions with loved ones. Does your family know why our work is important to you? Tell them! These conversations help ensure that your family understands your intentions. You could also inspire them to make a connection with Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Estate gifts provide funding for advancing innovative cancer research, expanding clinical trials and improving patient care initiatives such as patient assistance programs, community education outreach, integrative therapies and more.

Become a member of our Dr. Vee Legacy of Hope Society by letting us know that you have included Karmanos in your estate plan.



SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

I bequeath (the sum of \$_____) or (_____ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute for its general purposes, located at 4100 John R, Detroit, Michigan, 48201.

Contact the Office of Planned Giving at 313.576.8102 or knowlesd@karmanos.org and we'll help you get started with creating a plan that protects the important people and causes in your life.



4100 John R, Detroit, MI 48201

Gerold Bepler, M.D., Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

1.800.KARMANOS 1.800.527.6266 karmanos.org

