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Questions or Comments?



PLEASE CONTACT:

**Theresa
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Donor Relations
Manager &
Sweethearts Society
Coordinator

800-994-7400

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*Thank you for your
generosity this year. Some of
your peers are discovering
the joy of making their
generosity permanent with a
gift in their will. It costs you
nothing today - but impacts
the world forever.*



Our goal for the Sweetheart Newsletter is to offer information for creating a healthy, independent and financially secure lifestyle. None of the articles, content or interviews should be seen as medical, financial or legal advice. Everyone's situation is unique, so it is critical that you contact your doctor before making any changes to your diet, exercise routine or medical plan. Likewise, only your financial advisor is qualified to give you financial advice. Please consult a licensed expert before following any of the suggestions contained in this newsletter.

For information on the Masonic Sweethearts Society and how you can benefit from this free program, call the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation at 800.994.7400, or visit www.mmcfonline.org.



Sweetheart Connection

SWEETHEART SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation ~ SPRING 2018

She 's a Sweetheart

Let me introduce Nancy Chapel, affectionately known by some as the "Queen of Pahma" (pronounced with a Boston accent). You know the conversation is going to be entertaining when she introduces her sons as Russ the smart one, Eugene the handsome one, and George the favorite one, all in jest of course.

Nancy and Byron had five children: Cynthia, Eugene, Russ, Douglas, and George. Sadly, two passed very young. She raves about her three remaining. Their cattle/crop farm "Oak Lodge" has been in the family for seven generations. It is now run by her son, Russ, as well as other family members. She hopes the farm stays in the family for many more generations.

Nancy grew up in a Masonic household; her father and grandfather were both Masons in Massachusetts. She started her Masonic journey as a Rainbow Girl and joined in Michigan. After moving, she joined a California chapter. Soon after moving to Michigan, she joined Parma-Springport OES #270 and Brookfield OES #352, becoming Worthy Matron in 1957 and 1984. One of her most memorable achievements was serving as a Grand Committee woman for the Shaw-Hocking Grand Family in 1960 and 1961. Nancy is also an honorary OES member of Cradle Rock Massachusetts #125. She is just shy of sixty-nine years in the Order of Eastern Star.



Nancy was an office assistant for many years, and after retiring, she committed her life to volunteering. In addition to her time spent volunteering at hospitals and elementary schools, Nancy spent thirty years playing piano for her church. She used that talent in her Masonic life, playing piano at OES and Masonic events. Her other interests include: membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution, Secretary for the Michigan Centennial Farm Association, and member of the North Parma Countryside Club for seventy-one years, a club that was started in part by her Grandmother-in-law, Monica, in 1920.

Nancy describes her late husband Byron as "the best decision I ever made." The couple met when her sister married his brother. Her soon to be husband knew she was the "one" right away, telling his parents, "I just met the woman I am going to marry." They were married for fifty-nine wonderful years. Byron was also very Masonically involved, dedicating many years as a DDI & BGP, as well as holding the job of Past Worthy Patron of his OES Chapter several times.

At her 90th birthday, instead of gifts, Nancy asked for donations to go to the North Parma United Methodist food pantry. The canned goods rolled in, the food pantry shelves overflowed, and Nancy was very pleased. Nancy and her family are also dedicated donors to not only the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation, but many other worthwhile causes in their community.

What's left on Nancy's bucket list? She responds with a laugh, "Maybe a train trip around the U.S." Thank you, Nancy, for being such a delight!



Help. WHEN YOU need it.

Our dedicated Information and Referral Specialists will discuss with you your specific concerns and customize a solution to help you improve your situation. This service is available Monday through Friday and is available to all Michigan Widows, Michigan Masons, members of OES, no matter where you live.

In 2019, Live Better at Home received more than 6000 calls into our call center, and assisted over 600 individuals with their needs and requests for help. Below are just a few examples of the type of help provided to some of our widows provided this past year.

- Transportation – Live Better at Home staff assisted a widow who was having trouble finding rides to her doctor's appointments and staff were able to help her find transportation services in her community.
- Tax Information – A widow reached out as she was having difficulty affording her property taxes and staff were able to gather the information needed for services that she qualified for to help her pay her taxes.
- House – cleaning – Live better at Home was able to identify chore service agencies that could assist this widow with basic cleaning chores such as doing laundry, vacuuming, and other various household chores.



- Utility Assistance – Live better at Home was able to coordinate help with the local masonic Lodge, community agencies and some relief funds to assist a widow with paying a water bill, replacing and installation of a hot water heater.

You might not need us today, but when you do, please call the toll free number you will receive free confidential, trusted information and support.

masonsupport@michiganmasons.org

800-321-9357

Live Better At Home™



BECAUSE

family

IS FOREVER



The Sweetheart Society was designed to keep the widows of our Masonic Brothers connected to the fraternity. As a Masonic Sweetheart, you hold a special place within the Michigan Masonic family. You supported your husband throughout his life, and now the Fraternity is here to support you. Caring for Masonic Sweethearts is an obligation Masons take very seriously and you should never have to worry that you will be alone, or because your husband is gone that you are forgotten.

There is no cost or obligation to join the Sweetheart Society. Once you join, the Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation will send you a Sweetheart Society pin and commemorative poem and a [FREE Live Better At Home™](#) membership. You will also receive regular contact from your Michigan Masonic family, including birthday and holiday greetings as well as a Sweetheart Society newsletter.

If you know a Masonic widow who would like to join the Sweethearts Society, please call the:

800-994-7400



Questions or Comments?

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Theresa Quezada
Donor Relations Manager &
Sweethearts Society
Coordinator

800-994-7400

Fill out and return this card to become a member of the Sweethearts Society and mail it to:

The Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation
1200 Wright Avenue, Alma, MI 48801

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Date of Birth _____

Husband's Name _____

Husband's lodge number and name _____