

# Gratitude

CREATING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY. TOGETHER.

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## 1950 Sequoia Society Leaves a Legacy

Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital celebrated its 68th anniversary in October with a luncheon honoring the 53 founding members of the newly created 1950 Sequoia Society. The society recognizes those in our community who have graciously remembered the hospital and the foundation in their will or estate plan.

**If you, or a family member, have remembered the Sequoia Hospital Foundation in your estate plan, or are planning to do so, please contact our planned giving concierge, Christine Ackermann at 650.367.5719 or via email at [christine.ackermann@dignity-health.org](mailto:christine.ackermann@dignity-health.org). You can also visit our planned giving website at [sequoialegacy.org](http://sequoialegacy.org) to learn more about the various giving vehicles, run various giving scenarios via an embedded planned giving calculator, and more!**



### President's Message

Welcome to the spring edition of the Sequoia Hospital Foundation newsletter! During my first year as President for the Foundation we have been busy developing new and exciting ways to engage with both our donors and the larger community.

Over the last year we have added quarterly research salons that showcase the amazing work of our world-class physicians, launched an annual Birth Center reunion with a birthday party theme, developed the 1950 Sequoia Society to honor those who have made a significant planned gift, and much more!

We hope that you will continue to walk with us on this journey as we continue to develop an ambitious plan for the future of Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital that ensures access to world-class care in our own back yard. Stay tuned over the next year as we start to formulate and share the core elements that will be Vision2030: Innovation of Tomorrow.

*Paul W. Richardson, President*

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### IN MEMORIAM

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### Steve San Filippo

We lost a treasured member of the community and of the Sequoia Hospital family this past October with the passing of Steve San Filippo.

A licensed CPA, Steve was the Founder and Audit Partner of Sensiba San Filippo, LLP, one of the largest regional tax and accounting firms in the country. With four decades in public accounting, Steve put his professional training and passion to work on behalf of many community organizations. Steve first joined the Sequoia Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors in 1999 and then again in 2009, eventually serving as its Chair. During that time he served on the annual golf tournament committee, the Board's finance committee and the capital campaign cabinet for the New Sequoia Hospital. In 2016, Steve was honored as a Distinguished Volunteer Fundraiser by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Silicon Valley Chapter for his work at Sequoia. In addition to serving on the Sequoia Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors, Steve was also a member of Sequoia Hospital's Community Board of Directors.

**We look forward to celebrating Steve's many contributions to Sequoia at this year's golf tournament. Learn more about Steve and consider a donation in his memory at [sequoiahospitalfoundation.org/stevesanfilippo](http://sequoiahospitalfoundation.org/stevesanfilippo).**



### Raymond "Dee" Tolles

Raymond "Dee" Tolles passed away in November of 2018 leaving a lasting legacy at Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital and in the larger peninsula community as a whole.

Dee was the former Mayor of Menlo Park and a former elected city council member. He retired in 2009 as Senior Vice President and Regional Director of Union Bank of California in Palo Alto, after a nearly five decade-long career in banking. An avid community volunteer, Dee joined the Sequoia Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors in 2009. As a new board member he actively served on the Campaign Cabinet for the \$10 Million New Sequoia Hospital Campaign. Dee was a vocal advocate for Sequoia Hospital in the community and he and his wife, Laura Lou, were regular attendees at hospital and Foundation events, raising critical funding for patient care and programs. Dee remained active with the Foundation until moving out of the area in 2017.

**Learn more about Dee and consider a donation in his memory at [sequoiahospitalfoundation.org/deetolles](http://sequoiahospitalfoundation.org/deetolles).**



# Teeing Up 34 Years on the Course

The 34th installment of the Sequoia Hospital Foundation Golf Tournament took place in September at the prestigious Sharon Heights Golf and Country Club in Menlo Park and raised over \$201,000 in support of Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital's award-winning Heart & Vascular Institute.

Committee Chairs, Dr. Beverly Joyce and Dr. Gregory Engel, led the charge to refresh the tournament experience in anticipation of the upcoming 35th anniversary event. Emmy Award-winner Liam Mayclem hosted a spirited fund-a-need and live auction during the dinner portion of the program that kept attendees on their toes and entertained.

Beginning with our upcoming 35th anniversary event, the annual tournament will now be known as The Steven San Filippo Memorial Invitational in recognition of our long-time friend, colleague and board member.



**If you are interested in sponsoring, serving on a committee, or attending our annual golf and dinner outing taking place on Monday, September 9, 2019, please contact Staci Calzada at 650.367.5643 or via email at [staci.calzada@dignityhealth.org](mailto:staci.calzada@dignityhealth.org).**



## Super Hero Reunion Takes Flight

This past fall, Holbrook-Palmer Park played host to the Sequoia Hospital Foundation's first-ever Birth Center reunion, honoring Sequoia babies from 2008!

The reunion honored babies born in 2008 but was open to all Sequoia babies, families, and close friends. The Super Hero themed birthday party attracted families from all over the Peninsula for a day of fun, food, and friendship. Each attendee received a "passport" and collected stamps from various interactive booths and gaming areas throughout the event. A main stage also hosted performances by the Stanford University Ballet Folklorico, Ohana Hula, SV Cheer, and the amazing San Francisco 49er Gold Rush cheerleaders and Niner Noise! Sourdough Sam from the 49ers was also on hand to pose for photos and play with the kids. The Foundation celebrated our own super heroes by providing capes to each nurse and physician from Sequoia's Birth Center in attendance.



**The Birth Center Reunion will take place this year on Saturday, October 19. If you are interested in serving on the event committee or attending, please contact Staci Calzada at 650.367.5643 or via email at [staci.calzada@dignityhealth.org](mailto:staci.calzada@dignityhealth.org).**



## Year in Review

The Sequoia Hospital Foundation invites you to visit our digital annual report, launched this winter, by visiting [sequoiaimpact.org](http://sequoiaimpact.org). Hear from one of our longtime grateful families, the Hannigs on why a world-class community hospital like Sequoia is important, while also exploring an amazing legacy gift provided by Ida and Joseph Rodondi. The report will also provide a high level performance review from the prior year and introduce you to the Foundation leadership.



## Million Dollar Milestone

The Dr. William Kennett Memorial Nursing Scholarship Program reached an important milestone in 2018, awarding its millionth dollar in scholarship support to future nursing students from Cañada College and San Francisco State University.

This amazing scholarship program directly invests in the future of nursing across the larger Bay Area and was started with a single scholarship in 2005 by Gloria Kennett, widow of beloved Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital physician, Dr. William Kennett.

Exciting changes are coming to the nursing program this year and our students need your help. To learn more about how you can support this amazing program, we invite you to visit [sequoiahospitalfoundation.org/kennettscholarship](http://sequoiahospitalfoundation.org/kennettscholarship) or contact scholarship concierge, Alex Wright at 650.367.5676 or via email at [alex.wright@dignityhealth.org](mailto:alex.wright@dignityhealth.org).

### Our Gratitude Newsletter

It is our pleasure to share this quarterly newsletter with you. We invite you to let us know if you would prefer to receive a printed version by mail or an electronic version by email. If, on the other hand, you would prefer NOT to receive our newsletter at all, please feel free to tell us that as well. You may call us at 650.367.5657 or email us your preference at any time at: [sequoia.foundation@dignityhealth.org](mailto:sequoia.foundation@dignityhealth.org). Our newsletter is also available on the Foundation's website.

## Make a gift to the Sequoia Hospital Foundation Today

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of: ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Sequoia Hospital Foundation**. Mail this form and your donation to 170 Alameda de las Pulgas, Redwood City, CA 94062 or give online at [sequoiahospitalfoundation.org](http://sequoiahospitalfoundation.org).

**My information:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Designation:** Apply my gift to the following: ☐ Birth Center ☐ Cancer/Oncology ☐ Emergency ☐ Interventional GI  
☐ Guest House ☐ Health & Wellness Center ☐ Heart & Vascular Institute ☐ Kennett Scholarship Fund  
☐ Interventional Radiology ☐ Orthopedic ☐ Greatest Need ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**My giving options:** ☐ I wish to give anonymously. ☐ Please contact me regarding making a planned gift/estate gift.