

A Tribute to Family Offers Enduring Benefits for Our Community's Health Care



Dr. Will H. Darby

As a lifelong resident of Florence, the late Betty-Ann Darby watched McLeod Health grow from a small hospital with humble beginnings to the impressive regional medical center that serves our community today. "I have the greatest regard and respect for McLeod," Betty-Ann said. "They are a tremendous benefit to the community."

Betty-Ann's relationship with McLeod Health goes "way back," she said. Her father, Will Darby, was the hospital's first full-time licensed pharmacist, and

she and her parents had always entrusted their health care to McLeod Health. "We've been greatly impressed with the care," praised Betty-Ann. "It's just outstanding."

When her father passed away, Betty-Ann wanted to honor his memory by endowing a scholarship in his name. Aware of her father's high regard for McLeod Health, she decided the McLeod Health Foundation would be the perfect organization to establish the Will H. Darby Pharmacy Scholarship. As a retired music teacher, Betty-Ann valued the importance of education and said her father shared her affection for young people, which made a scholarship a natural choice.

Betty-Ann explained that her gift was mutually beneficial for her and the Foundation. Using appreciated stocks, she was able to fund the scholarship while taking advantage of income and capital gains tax savings.

After working with the Foundation on her father's scholarship, Betty-Ann was happy to respond to their call to support the new cancer center. She established another gift which will allow her to name the satellite pharmacy after her father. Betty-Ann was pleased to have found a way to honor her family that also helped preserve and strengthen McLeod Health and the community.

Upon Betty-Ann's passing in 2013, the McLeod Foundation was notified that once again Betty-Ann had expressed her devotion to McLeod Health. The McLeod Foundation was included in her will as a partial residual heir. The Darby Family legacy will continue to positively impact the health of our region through Betty-Ann's thoughtful planning.