

Fulfilled Bequests Help Masonicare Fulfill its Mission

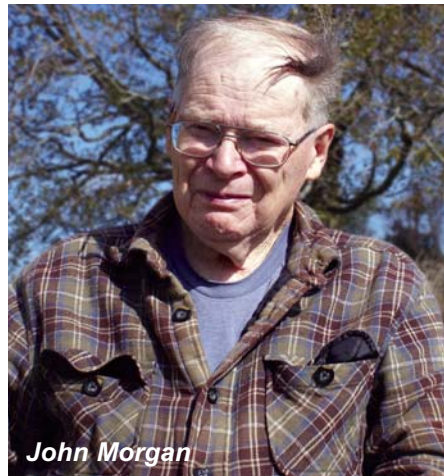
Foundation Receives Over \$1.1M from Morgan Estate

The late John Morgan (1927-2016) supported the Masonicare Annual Appeal because he knew that every contribution received by The Masonic Charity Foundation helps Masonicare provide its residents and patients with the highest level of care available. That confidence in our work also inspired John to make a generous provision for The Foundation in his will.

“The Masonic Charity Foundation is so grateful to John Morgan not only for his steadfast support of our Annual Appeal throughout his lifetime,” said Jennifer King, The Foundation’s Executive Director, “but also for the amazing legacy gift he left to our organization. We were thrilled to receive an unrestricted bequest of \$1,115,000 from John’s estate in 2017. It’s an amazing gift that will help Masonicare provide the highest quality care to countless residents in need.”

A retired farmer, John was born in Newtown, CT where his father raised baby chicks that were then shipped by rail throughout the country. Circumstances led to the family giving up the hatching business in favor of dairy farming, but the Morgans found their 30-acre farm to be too small for cattle. The family relocated to a 194-acre parcel in Sharon, where John lived until his passing in April 2016.

In 2005, John was approached about selling some real estate. He agreed, and whenever possible, used the proceeds from that sale to help local charities. He included The Masonic Charity Foundation in his giving because he knew his



John Morgan

gifts would benefit Masonicare residents and patients in need.

“I know my donations will be used,” he said in 2009, “and used properly.”

But there was another reason that John, a Mason raised at Hiram Lodge No. 18 in Sandy Hook, supported the work of Masonicare, and it dated back to when his aunt, Hattie Hubbard, worked at the former Masonic Home (now Masonicare Health Center). Hattie ran the dining room for many years before taking over as the lead cook. She retired briefly during World War II but returned to work at the Home as a pastry chef.

It was around that time that John’s aunt was badly injured in an accident in the kitchen. The Masonic Home cared for Hattie for the rest of her life – a gesture that the Morgan family never forgot.

“With The Foundation also being a beneficiary of John’s sister Alice’s trust,” King said, “we feel immense gratitude towards the Morgan family and look forward to identifying an appropriate gift naming opportunity on our Wallingford campus to honor in perpetuity their philanthropy to The Foundation and their impact on our organization.”

Should you wish to remember The Foundation in your Will, we encourage you to provide the following bequest language to your attorney:

“I give, devise, and bequeath all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, or _____% (percentage) of my estate, or \$_____ (sum of money) to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, Inc., located in Wallingford, CT.”

Please note that The Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and its full, legal name is “The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, Inc.” Our Federal Tax Identification Number is 06-1435920. ■

Everett Spencer: “Trust” in the Masonicare Mission



Some benefactors support Masonicare by making major gifts to the Masonic Charity Foundation during their lifetimes. Others make generous provisions for The Foundation in their estate plans, helping ensure that the mission of Masonicare will continue well after their passing.

A few, like Higganum’s Everett Spencer, Jr. are pleased to be able to do both. In addition to having funded two charitable gift annuities, the retired Northeast Utilities accountant also named The Foundation a beneficiary of his trust.

“Masonicare is doing good work,” Everett said, “and I know that my gifts to The Masonic Charity Foundation will be put to good use.”

A 37-year Mason raised at Granite Lodge No. 119 in Haddam, Everett took to heart a core Masonic belief that relief of the distressed is “a duty incumbent on all men, particularly Masons, who are linked together by a bond of sincere affection.”

It’s a bond strengthened through his membership in Masonic organizations like the Scottish Rite Valley of Hartford, the Royal Arch Masons (Burning Bush-Washington Chapter No. 6), the Royal Order of Jesters (Hartford Court No. 141) and the Sphinx Shriners, where he was a longtime Assistant Director of the Sphinx Hospital & Transportation Unit. The Unit operates vans to assist families in transporting their children to and from the various Shriners Hospitals for Children.

“I’ve gotten so much out of Freemasonry,” Everett said, “including a lot of good friends

Classic and the Masonicare Quality of Life Walk. So far, I have been very pleased with my association with The Masonic Charity Foundation.”

“I was delighted to hear that The Masonic Charity Foundation would be featuring in its newsletter my dear friend and brother, Everett Spencer,” said fellow benefactor Ted Nelson, Grand Master of Connecticut Masons. “Everett is a humble man who lives the tenets of Masonry. He’s one of those brothers you can count on being there for you. I’ve only ever known him to give unconditionally from the heart.”

“Everett is a humble man who lives the tenets of Masonry. I’ve only ever known him to give unconditionally from the heart.”

and good memories. Over the years, I’d visit family members and Masonic friends and brothers living at Masonicare Health Center and the assisted living apartments nearby, and I was really pleased with what I saw.”

Everett began to think about his own healthcare needs and considered that there may come a time when he will require additional care.

“Knowing that Masonicare might play a role in my plans as I got older,” he said, “I decided that I wanted to support The Foundation’s fundraising activities by making a provision for it in my trust, funding the charitable gift annuities and sponsoring special events like the Masonicare Golf

“Although Everett has not used Masonicare’s services personally,” said Masonic Charity Foundation Executive Director Jennifer King, “I know he appreciates the quality of those services and knows people who have benefitted from our care. We’re very grateful that Everett looks so favorably upon Masonicare and that he chose to support our gift annuity program during his lifetime and has made such a generous provision in his estate plan for The Masonic Charity Foundation.” ■

Talk to your attorney about how to make a gift through your trust to The Masonic Charity Foundation

Would a Charitable Gift Annuity Make Sense for You?

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) is a contract between the donor and The Masonic Charity Foundation whereby, in exchange for an irrevocable gift of cash or securities, the annuitant (typically the donor) receives a fixed income for life at a highly competitive rate while simultaneously supporting the mission of Masonicare.

Annuities can be single-life or two-life contracts and income rates depend upon the age(s) of the annuitant(s) at the time the gift is made. Having

explored options such as certificates of deposit, CGA donors like Everett Spencer are very pleased with the attractive fixed annuity rates offered by The Foundation (see chart at right).

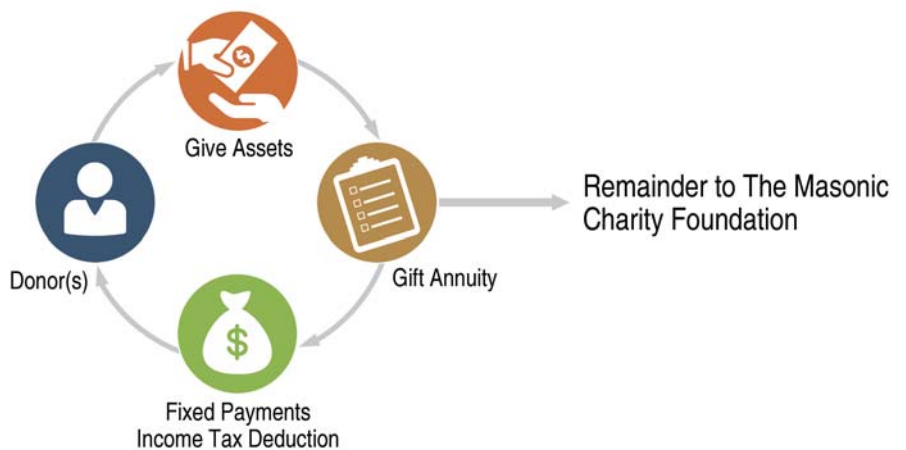
Everett also enjoys the tax incentives associated with his CGAs. Not only can he claim a charitable deduction with his gift annuities, but a portion of the fixed income payments he receives is tax-free as well (Note: If a CGA is funded with appreciated securities, capital gains taxes may be reduced).

For more information about gift annuities, or to receive a personalized sample annuity illustration, please contact Alison Koons, Associate Director of Philanthropy, at **800-562-3952** or **akoons@masonicare.org**. Or simply return the gift annuity reply card to us in the postage-paid envelope provided.

American Council on Gift Annuities			
Rates accurate as of January 1, 2017			
Single Life		Two Lives: Joint & Survivor	
Age	Rate	Ages	Rate
65	4.7%	65-65	4.2%
70	5.1%	65-70	4.4%
75	5.8%	70-70	4.6%
80	6.8%	70-75	4.8%
85	7.8%	80-80	5.7%
90 and over	9.0%	80-85	6.1%
ACGA: Promoting Responsible Philanthropy		85-85	6.7%
		90-90	8.2%

EXAMPLE:

Eleanor R., age 82, contributes \$10,000 in cash and receives a lifetime annuity of \$720, of which \$571 is tax-free for approximately the first eight years. As the annuitant, she receives an income tax deduction of \$5,260, resulting in tax savings when she claims it. At Eleanor's passing, the gift annuity remainder goes to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut.



ON THE LEVEL is a publication of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, 22 Masonic Avenue, PO Box 70, Wallingford, CT 06492. Telephone: 800-562-3952 or 203-679-5555. Online at masonicare.org/mcf

Are You Due For An Estate Planning Checkup?

Having an estate plan is an important step toward protecting your family for the future. Keeping it up to date is just as important as having one in place.



representative? Make your wishes about end-of-life care known and consider appointing someone to make sure those wishes are carried out.

If you haven't already, consider making an appointment with your estate planning lawyer for an estate planning checkup. You'll be pleased that you made the effort ... for the sake of those people and organizations you care about. ■

Whether your assets are significant or modest in value, it's important to review your estate plan every few years.

Ask yourself: do you have a Will and is it up to date? Is it in a safe place and will someone know how to locate it?

How are your assets titled? If you own real estate, obtain a copy of the deed.

Do you have retirement benefits or IRAs? If you do, review the beneficiary designations. These accounts are an ever-increasing part of our assets, and the beneficiary designations should be coordinated with your overall estate plan.

If you have life insurance, review your coverage and the beneficiary designations. Remember that while life insurance passes income tax-free to a named beneficiary, it is subject to estate tax in the insured/owner's estate.

If a cause or charitable organization has been important to you, consider leaving that charity a gift. Naming a charity as a beneficiary of your IRA is a simple and tax-efficient way to include charity in your estate plan. Upon your death, the charity will receive 100% of the IRA, unreduced by income tax or estate tax.

Also, do you have a durable financial power of attorney? Do you have someone in a complete position of trust to whom you can assign a power of attorney to take care of your financial affairs if you are unable to do so? Again, make sure someone will know how to locate these important documents.

Finally, do you have a Living Will and have you appointed a healthcare

