

## Pat & Ed Lee Family Endowment



My parents, Pat and Ed Lee, moved to Westfield from the Boston area in 1952. The insurance company my dad worked for had promoted him to Claims Manager, and transferred him to their Springfield office. In 1957 the insurance company planned to promote my dad again and transfer him back to Boston, but my parents wanted to stay in Westfield. My dad left the insurance company and opened his law practice.

Despite my dad's busy law practice and the raising of six children, both my parents were very active in community organizations and service to Westfield. My dad was City Solicitor for Westfield for four years. In addition, he served on the School Committee for four years and was Chairman of the High School Building Committee. He also served as Town Counsel for the Town of Russell. My dad was Commander of the American Legion Post 124; President of the Westfield Rotary Club and recipient of their Paul Harris Fellowship Award; President of the Westfield Area Child Guidance Association, Inc.; President of the Westfield Area Mental Health and Retardation Board; President of the Community Council of Greater Springfield, Inc. He also served as Director for the Boards of Work Opportunity, Inc.; YMCA of Greater Westfield; Executive Committee United Way of Pioneer Valley; and Community Funds Advisory Committee of Springfield. The Massachusetts Bar Association gave my dad their Community Service Award in 1992 in recognition of his charitable work.



My mother served as President of the Westfield Woman's Club and as Chairman of the Westfield Theatre Group for many years. She also served on the City of Westfield Community Development Board.

Both my parents were great supporters of Noble Hospital. My father served on the Board of Directors and co-chaired the Noble Ball one year with my mother. My mother served as the President of the Noble Auxiliary and managed their gift shop for a number of years. She started the Bingo program at Noble and became known as the "Bingo Lady." My mother was a volunteer at Noble Hospital for over 20 years and has clocked 6,000 hours of volunteer time there.

My parents were well known for being world travelers with trips to places as diverse as China, Australia, South America and the Galapagos Islands.

My dad served in the Navy, eventually retiring from the Navy Reserve as Commander. He used the GI Bill to attend college and then law school, while supporting his growing family as a Boston taxi driver. My father was a great believer in education.

My dad had a long history with Citizens' Scholarship Foundation. He was one of the incorporators, and handled all of the legal work to get Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of Westfield incorporated in the fall of 1962. He was their first fund-raising chairman. They raised \$9,200.00 that first year and awarded 40 scholarships. In 1963, my dad was elected President of CSF of Westfield.

In 1966, my father was elected President of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of Massachusetts and as Director of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America, Inc. (CSFA), now known as Scholarship America.

Dad served as Chairman of the Board of Scholarship America from 1971-1979 and was instrumental in the development of their Corporate Scholarship Program. Over the years, this program has distributed more than a billion dollars in scholarships. At the time of his death, he was serving on Scholarship America's Honor Roll Trustees in an advisory capacity.

As a legal advisor, my dad guided numerous clients in setting up endowments for Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of Westfield, usually through their Wills. These clients included: Dorothea Burgum, Koula Johnson, Frederick J. Pohl and Loretta Baker Pohl, William J. Fenton and the American Legion Post 124.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without my mom, Pat Lee.

To commemorate their 50th wedding anniversary on August 15th, 1997, my parents established the Pat and Ed Lee Family Endowment. Family and friends made contributions in their honor as a lasting tribute to their marriage and their achievements in the community.

When my dad, Ed Lee, died on March 2, 2012, family, friends and community organizations honored him again with their contributions to the Pat and Ed Lee Family Endowment of the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of Westfield.

By Cynthia Lee Anderson  
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