We Make a Life by What We Give

Winston Churchill is widely quoted as having said, “We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.” Recently we lost two friends of our organization. Both utilized services of Colonie Senior Service Centers.

When I first met Les Warner he had just lost his beloved wife Emma. They moved here when the building opened, ten years ago, and Emma was recruited to be the Beltrone Living Center Librarian. “She didn’t know a thing about being a Librarian” he said, “but she learned.” She spent hours upon hours putting books away and organizing the growing library collection. In her honor Les gave a generous donation to the BLC Library, and then an “In Memory of” donation the next year.

Les was the proud father of two daughters: Roberta and Lesley, with grand children and great-grandchildren his pride and joy. While he was a Colonel in WWII, served again in the Korean War, and was a 47 year career executive with Woolworths he clearly understood “we make a life by what we give.” His support of Colonie Senior Service Centers came in many forms throughout the years; Café Volunteer, Annual Fund donor, Raffle supporter (every season) and a regular Founders Honorary Committee Member to list just a few. Leslie A. Warner was a positive life force.

Such is the case with all our generous “In Memory of Donors.” With your gifts In Remembrance of and/or In Honor of you respect the lives of fellow friends and family who have touched those of us who have maybe lived, worked and retired after years of service to our communities and our nation.

Often these family and friends have been celebrated or uncelebrated, maybe even heroes or heroines; some deeply respected and others tarnished as maybe not having “lived up.” Nonetheless, we cannot forget the exemplary attributes of those who have touched us.

We have been privileged to have worked with, been inspired by and to have been befriended by those we remember and honor. Thank you for giving to Colonie Senior Service Centers “You make a life by what you give.”