

### CELEBRATING SENIORS AND MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

# Shining Moments Newsletter ~ Spring 2023

### Hello Donna,

WOW! What an amazing night celebrating our "Week of Wishes," and the incredible milestones of 20 years and 5,000 Twilight Wishes granted!

First, thank you to all the sponsors who so generously supported not only this event, but our wish granting efforts throughout the years. It was amazing to see so many of you in the room celebrating with us - we truly would not be here without that support. See the list below. A big thank you to Cindy Graul, our photography sponsor, who did an amazing job capturing so many wonderful photos throughout the evening! Thank you also to Rose Silvis for creating and donating the absolutely beautiful floral centerpieces.

I also want to thank our wonderful chapter directors, several of who made the trip to be with us: Jamie Bostard and Phyllis Mrosco from our Westmoreland County, PA chapter; Missy Sovak from our Allegheny County, PA chapter; James Ciervo, our Long Island chapter director; and Andrea Hoisl from our Connecticut chapter. Thank you also to Randie Duretz, our Director of Chapters and Volunteers who made the trip up from Florida!

Thank you also to our Board of Director members for their service and for attending the WOW event: James Ciervo, Lisa Graham, Ken Leith, Jon Miller, Jane Leventhal and Ruth Anne Wood. We missed Mary Mannix Miller and Daniel Stephens who were unable to attend.

There were several high points that evening including Mae Krier, our favorite Rosie the Riveter, presenting the award named after her to Jerry Rothkoff of Rothkoff Law Group. The "Mae Krier Senior Advocacy Award" was given to Jerry for his years of advocacy for the rights of the elderly and disabled. A well-deserved honor for Jerry who has been a longtime supporter of Twilight Wish, serving on both our Board of Directors and Advisory Board.

A definite highlight of the evening for many in the room was WPVI meteorologist Adam Joseph who spoke about his experience granting John's wish to meet him. For those who weren't there, John was a Navy WWII who also taught meteorology classes









for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. His one wish was to meet Adam Joseph who he watched do the weather every day. Adam's speech was so heartfelt and touched many in the room.

Twenty years and 5,000 Twilight Wishes are unbelievable milestones and I was truly honored to receive a beautiful award in recognition of my 20 years of service to Twilight Wish. Thank you to my husband, Bill Belknap, and our company AEONRG LLC, and my sister, Mary Forkin, and daughter, Elizabeth Belknap for always being there for me. Thank you for all the support and hard work over the years to so many family and friends, wish recipients, donors, sponsors, volunteers, staff, board directors and chapter directors...you make it all possible.

Finally, I would like to thank our WOW committee who spent many months putting together such an incredible, successful event. A huge thank you to Jonathan Miller, Lorri Bernstein, Tara Rittler, Peter Stinson, Donna DeQuila, Cheryl Gustafson and Mary Farrell for all their hard work.

Let's keep making our world a nicer place to age, one Twilight Wish at a time!

Best wishes,

Cass Forkin
Founder and Chairwoman







# Thank you to our Week of Wishes sponsors! Dream Sponsor AEONRG, LLC

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