



The Thompson Family Story – Blimp Accident at US Open Brings Them to Kathy's House



Kathy's House 4th Annual Golf Outing Golfers, Scott Latzke, Val Latzke, Greg Schafer, Jill Curren.



It's Go Time!



Tom Klug in his Jackie Gleason pose.



Relaxing and having fun are Mona Theobald, Jeff Brozowski, Brian Kalata and Chad Tollefson.

Trevor Thompson was piloting the Blimp when it went down during the US Open in June 2017 near Milwaukee. Trevor was taken to the Trauma Center at Froedtert Hospital and then to Columbia St. Mary's Burn Unit. His wife Lorraine from Georgia and mother Susan from Utah initially stayed at a local hotel, but when Summerfest started, all the rooms were booked. They then toured Kathy's House and found it fit their needs perfectly.

Lorraine and Susan stayed with us for two weeks before Trevor was released home.

"We couldn't have been happier with the interactions we had with other guests and the incredible staff at Kathy's House," said Lorraine. "We loved the local feeling of the home and hope other families who are in similar situations are able to experience the kindness of Kathy's House. We are so grateful it was available to us during this time of trial."



Susan (left) and Lorraine (right) Thompson. Trevor's mother and wife at Kathy's House, July 2017.

A few weeks later after leaving Kathy's House, Lorraine expanded on her comments. "There is one element about Kathy's House that I keep reflecting on as time passes. When you are in a traumatic event, it feels as if everyone around you is completely oblivious to the fact that your world is at a standstill. You need to be treated with a lighter hand, a softer touch. When you stay in a hotel, the expectation is that you are on a business trip or vacation or a family event. Hotel staff are unaware of the sensitivities you are in need of."



Trevor and Lorraine Thompson at Kathy's House in October. Trevor has made an amazing recovery from the accident.

"At Kathy's House, we felt part of a group of people who are in similar situations. It's like being in a safe bubble before going out into the world. All the staff completely understands the unique needs of patients and their families."

"It takes pressure off of your mind, a load off your shoulders, just knowing your basic needs are being cared for. If you haven't been through such a situation, it's difficult to realize how important this environment is to the healing process."

When Trevor and Lorraine return to Milwaukee for follow-up visits, they stay at Kathy's House. Trevor said, "Kathy's House does feel like home. We've felt very supported by the staff and all the other guests."





Judy Vogel Joins Emeritus Board

Judy Vogel, mother of Kathy Vogel Kuettner, has served on the Board since the House opened in 2001. "Kathy saw a need for a peaceful place for patients and families traveling to Milwaukee to access treatment for cancer or other major medical issues. What a legacy of compassion Kathy's House has become for thousands of families over the last 17 years. I know she would be proud of the work that has been done in her name."



Another of Judy's daughters, Laura Woods, joined the Board of Directors in 2015 and continues to represent the Vogel family, as does Judy's brother-in-law, Ran Hoth.

Media Relations Pro Joins Board



Kathy Sieja is Director of Media Relations for Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Health Network, a regional health care system operating three hospitals and 30 health centers in south eastern Wisconsin. She manages the media relations team and works with local, regional and international news media.

Kathy has more than 30 years of experience as a communications professional in nonprofit, corporate and agency environments. She is experienced in all areas of communications, including public relations, media relations, crisis communications and investor relations.

Kathy is a founding board member of ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, a Milwaukee based organization founded in 2000 by the late TV journalist Melodie Wilson. She is accredited in public relations through the Public Relations Society of America and has a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin.

Strategic Plan Adopted to Become the National Model in Hospital Guest Housing

Kathy's House Board of Directors recently adopted a new three-year strategic plan to provide a framework to best support patient outcomes and be the national model in hospital guest housing.

To the end, the Board solidified six committees to help achieve our goals. These committees are led by members of the Board and include other community leaders.

Committees are: Fund Development, Finance & Risk Management, Programming and Organization Effectiveness, Marketing and Communications, Board Governance & Nominating and the Executive Committee.

Mission: Kathy's House is a hospital guest house committed to providing affordable lodging and caring support in a "home away from home" environment for families who need to travel to the Milwaukee area for medical care.

Vision: To become a replicable national model in the field of Hospital Hospitality Housing by developing a state-of-the-art facility and delivering guest services based on best practices to improve patient care and the healthcare delivery model system.

Strategic Goals

1. To provide an exceptional guest experience that includes a safe, inviting and supportive environment and programmatic features that foster healthier outcomes for our guests.
2. To maximize, leverage, retain and strategically develop the talents and skills of Kathy's House's staff, board and volunteers to address projected growth and escalating needs among guests and ensure an organizational capacity that provides exemplary care and exceptional guest experiences.
3. To collaborate with referring partners and ensure best practices which improve patient outcomes, including prevention of hospital re-admittance, and improve cost effectiveness and efficiencies as part of the overall healthcare develop system.
4. To provide a facility and replicable thoughtful service delivery model that is based on academic best practices, is externally evaluated (benchmarked) and promotes positive patient outcomes.
5. To build the Kathy's House brand through effective marketing, stronger and community relationships, increased fundraising capacity and diversified funding sources.

Passages 6/8/17 – 10/19/17
Donors of **Kathy's House** have recently honored the memories of:

John & Sharon Albinger
Betty Alecksen
Patrik Alezar
Leona Anick
Jim Bacus
Jim Bilotti

Kathleen Donovan Smith
Margaret Erwin
Linda Isetts
Keith Jansen
Joan Johnson
Sandra Kearney

Frank Kordish
Sophie Loppnow
Phyllis Metropulos
Robert Murphy
Jerry Oberembt
Lesa Potos

Patti Salm
Russell Skorik
Nancy Strother
Roy Wagner





Meet the Hendricks



Lois Hendricks from Green Bay has stayed at Kathy's House for 68 nights so far this year, since her husband Thomas began his cancer treatment at Froedtert Hospital with Medical College of Wisconsin surgeon Doug Evans and his team.

Lois read about the Second Opinion program at Froedtert & the Medical College in the Froedtert Today magazine and they decided to give it a try. Lois and Tom were impressed by the staff at Froedtert Hospital. Lois said even the cleaning people are friendly and whenever you look a little lost at the Hospital, someone will stop and help you get to your destination.

When the Hendricks come back for follow up visits and stay the night at Kathy's House, they often bring a box of Seroogy's Chocolates, a hometown treat, to share. During their stays, Lois is grateful for the rides to and from the hospital. "When we return it is like coming home."

Mary and Steve Kidd "Pay it Forward" with Planned Gift

The Kidd family stayed at Kathy's House for several months last year while Mary and Steve's daughter Jessica was treated for cancer at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin. Jessica's son, Preston, then 2 years old, also stayed at the House and was adored by all the staff and guests at the House.

Sadly, Jessica lost her battle to cancer. The care her family experienced at Kathy's House led her parents, Mary and Steve, to include Kathy's House as part of their estate plan.

"It was a time in our life when we needed help, and Kathy's House was there. You were our home, welcoming us with open, loving arms, helping us, listening to us. We never realized what people go through when a loved one is seriously ill and want Kathy's House to be available to others going through this experience," said Mary Kidd.

Kathy's House welcomes bequests and planned gifts of any size.

For more information, call Patty Metropulos, Executive Director at 414-453-8290

Guest Occupancy Breaking Records

Kathy's House has been breaking occupancy records all year, reaching an average of 87% occupancy from January – September.

Last year, overall occupancy was 85% and 76% in 2015. It's not possible to reach 100% occupancy as guests arrive and depart at different times of the day and evening and each room needs to be cleaned before re-occupied. However, in June, occupancy did reach 94%!

Sharply increasing demand means we are now regularly faced with the unthinkable task of turning people away. In 2016 we turned away about 120 families. This year, as of September, we have already turned away more than 120 families. The need for a larger Kathy's House has never been clearer.



Record occupancy means piles and piles of sheets, towels and bedding to be laundered. So far this year, more than 10,000 pounds of laundry have been cleaned for Kathy's House by Goodwill Industries. Now that's a lot of laundry!

Don't Forget to Follow Us on Facebook and Twitter



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facebook.com/KathysHouseMilwaukee

Wish List

Financial Assistance for Families

- \$500 = 10 nights of lodging
- \$400 = 8 nights of lodging
- \$300 = 6 nights of lodging
- \$200 = 4 nights of lodging
- \$100 = 2 nights of lodging
- \$50 = 1 night of lodging

Gift Cards

- Speedway/Citgo/Shell
- Amazon
- Menards
- Walmart
- Pick N' Save

In-Kind Donations

- Decaf Coffee
- Creamer for Coffee
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
- Non-Perishable Foods
- Disinfectant Spray and Wipes
- All Purpose Cleaners
- Kleenex
- Paper Towel
- Fragrance Free Dryer Sheets
- Laundry Detergent (HE-Free & Clear)
- Hand Soap (Liquid-Fragrance Free)
- New Standard Size Pillows

Other Ways to Help



Go to smile.amazon.com and choose Kathy's House as your charity. For each purchase, Amazon will donate .5% to Kathy's House.



If you are a member of Thrivent Financial you can direct your Thrivent "Choice Dollars" to Kathy's House. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice

Kathy's House, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.





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Executive Director & CEO

Our Mission

Kathy's House is a hospital guest house committed to providing affordable lodging and caring support in a "home away from home" environment for families who need to travel to Milwaukee for medical care.

Announcing "A New Home For Healing"

As we continue our journey to raise \$9 million for the new Kathy's House capital campaign, we are pleased to share our new logo, **A New Home for Healing**.

We are also pleased to announce our campaign leadership team. They are strong supporters and leaders and will pave the way to help us connect with and engage passionate philanthropists who want to make a difference in the lives of patients and families facing cancer and serious illness.



Honorary Co-Chairs



Cathy Buck, MSN, RN – Cathy is president of Froedtert Hospital. She has served in this role since 2011 and was an instrumental champion of Froedtert's \$6 million investment in Kathy's House New Home project. Cathy joined Froedtert Hospital in 1982 serving in progressive leadership capacities while pioneering numerous patient safety and quality improvements. Her work in bringing Six Sigma and Lean to health care has been recognized nationally through numerous presentations and awards. The recipient of many awards including YWCA'S Outstanding Woman of Achievement and the Milwaukee Business Journal's Woman of Influence, Cathy sits on numerous boards and has a passion for giving back to the community.



Peter Engel – Peter recently retired as Executive Vice President of Johnson Financial Group. Peter has served on the boards of Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce: Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce; Better Business Bureau of Wisconsin (past chair); BBB Wisconsin Foundation; Layton Boulevard West Neighbors; and recently received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement for Cardinal Stritch University.

Campaign Co-Chairs



Jack Anick – Jack is founder of Anick & Associates, an accounting and management services firm for non-profit organizations. Jack currently serves on the Board of Directors and was an original advisor when Kathy's House first opened in 2001. Anick & Associates currently serve 90 non-profits across the United States and Internationally. He is instrumental in the development of about 30 non-profits a year. He brings a depth of first-hand knowledge of non-profit management.



Sue Derus, MBA, RTT – Sue recently retired as Executive Director of the Cancer Center, Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin, and has served on the Kathy's House Board of Directors for the last two years. Sue was instrumental in helping to grow the partnership between Kathy's House and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin. She also was an advisor for Kathy's House when it was first established. She joined Froedtert Hospital in 1995 and prior to that was Director of Radiation Oncology at the Milwaukee County Medical Complex. Sue has been recognized by the Milwaukee Business Journal as a Woman of Influence and by Horizon Homecare and Hospice with their Touching Lives Award.

Thank you to Thiel Design and graphic artist Peter Tonn for designing our campaign logo.

