

Evelyn W. Huntley Fellowship Endowment Established at Kendal at Lexington

The Evelyn W. Huntley Fellowship Endowment, established as a surprise Christmas gift to her at year end 2009, continues now as a permanent tribute to a lively member of the Kendal community. Although she lived at Kendal less than a year, the larger Lexington community had known her gracious presence as First Lady at Washington and Lee for decades. The name Evelyn W. Huntley has long been associated with generosity of spirit, so a gift in her name at Kendal is a fitting way to grow the culture of generosity that made Kendal possible in the first place, and builds on the tradition of the gift of Sunnyside Farm property by Fred Bartenstein, where the community stands today.

The Evelyn W. Huntley Fellowship Endowment already makes a measurable difference in the lives of the community's members. First, it makes a difference in the assurance throughout the community that no financial reversal can threaten a person's ability to stay right in their home at Kendal; Fellowship funds guarantee support when financial reversals occur. Second, it makes a difference because community members have the satisfaction of knowing they live in a community that cares for each other and for the common good—an ethos at the heart of our Quaker roots. And third, it is making a direct difference in the lives of people who are using the Fellowship Fund for assistance so they can live out their lives with independence and security.

Of course, all fund disbursements are confidential, but the fact that the funds are needed and used is important public information. Presently, the total Fellowship Fund stands at \$565,000.00 and needs are likely to grow in the future as the community grows older and more established. So gifts like this one are critical to the ability of the fund to keep up with future needs.

Deciding to establish the endowment, and choosing this particular purpose, was a joint venture. Bob Huntley shared his desire to honor his wife Evelyn with executive director Steve Jewell. Bob brought his experiences from other communities where he had seen the power of resident financial support to change the lives of people facing economic hardship—sometimes at points of frailty. Coming to the conversation with openness about where the greatest needs lie at Lexington, and where a generous gift can make the greatest difference at this time

and place, the two settled on a gift to the Fellowship Fund—Kendal's resident assistance fund.

So Bob was able to present Evelyn with a certificate on Christmas morning, announcing the establishment of The Evelyn W. Huntley Fellowship Endowment. By all reports, the gift delighted Evelyn. It also paved the way for a continuing legacy of support for neighbors in need, and opened the possibility of persons entering the community from lives of service who otherwise might not be able to afford to join the community.

The Evelyn W. Huntley Fellowship Endowment makes a lasting statement about the difference generous giving can make. Kendal will long remember Evelyn with genuine appreciation.