

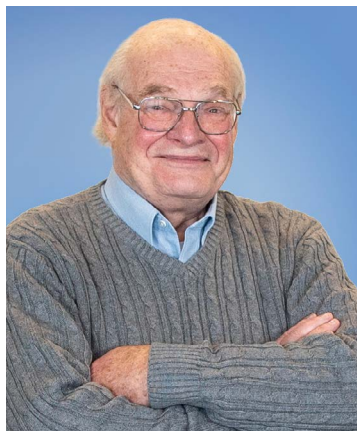
# UPSTATE Today & Tomorrow

Leave a lifesaving or life-changing legacy

SPRING 2021

Fund the future of Upstate Medical University through legacy giving opportunities at the Upstate Foundation

## Remembering a beloved wife through a legacy gift



Dick Freeman

Reflecting on his time with beloved wife Priscilla, Dick Freeman enthusiastically encourages anyone contemplating a legacy gift, saying, “Just do it. When you make a gift in memory of a person you’ve lost or in honor of someone who is fighting through this disease, a legacy gift is a way to make something good come from it!”

Shortly after Priscilla’s passing from cancer in 2006,

Dick decided to honor her memory with a legacy gift that would help others in their community who faced a similar journey. He named the Upstate Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, designating the gift to a patient assistance fund at Upstate’s hematology oncology office in Oswego. Dick said, “It’s a way to help make sure others have the same positive experience you’ve had.”

Priscilla and Dick had been married 29 years when a cancer diagnosis turned their lives upside down. Seeking the best medical treatment for Priscilla, the couple found themselves in the care of Dr. Jonathan Wright, an oncologist at Upstate

University Hospital who also saw patients at the hospital’s satellite office in Oswego. The Freemans knew instantly that they were in good hands. The care and compassion they both received touched them deeply. The experience filled them with hope and gave them the courage to face cancer, head on.



“Just do it. . .it’s a way to make something good come from [this disease]!”

“Dr. Wright was like an angel on earth,” said Dick. “When Priscilla was hospitalized, I was so impressed by the care that he, along with every nurse and orderly, showed not only to Priscilla and me, but all patients and families on the oncology floor. Even though Priscilla was going through a traumatic time, it was joyous how everyone was treated like family. I still get emotional about it even today.”

Dick knows Priscilla would be proud of the legacy he is leaving; he only wishes she were here to share the story.

To learn more about creating your own legacy gift, call the Upstate Foundation at 315-464-4416 or visit [UpstateFoundation.org/LegacyGiving](http://UpstateFoundation.org/LegacyGiving)

## Maximizing your gift by donating appreciated stock

One of the most tax efficient ways to give to charity is by gifting appreciated stock. Not only will you be able to get a tax deduction for the value of the stock if you itemize, but you will be able to avoid paying capital gains tax on the gain. For those in the 22 percent or higher tax bracket this can make a significant impact at tax time (if you are in the 12 percent bracket or less federal capital gains are taxed at a zero percent rate anyway). Below is an example of how this can work.

XYZ company stock bought for \$5,000

XYZ company stock appreciated to \$25,000

Gain subject to tax if cashed out is \$20,000

If you cashed out the stock to get cash to gift to the charity you would have to pay state and federal capital gains tax on the \$20,000 gain. However, if you gift the stock directly to the charity, you avoid paying any tax on the \$20,000 gain and can still get the full \$25,000 tax deduction for the gift assuming you itemize (within IRS limits). This is a much more tax efficient way to gift than giving cash outright.



Richard P. Reagan  
president, Reagan  
Companies, Asset  
Management, Inc.

## Upstate achieves top nursing honor: Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center



In January, Upstate University Hospital received the exciting news that it had achieved Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) – the highest and most prestigious distinction a health care organization can receive for nursing excellence and patient care.

Less than 10 percent of U.S. hospitals have achieved Magnet designation.

The decision to award Upstate with Magnet designation was unanimous and included special recognition that highlighted Upstate's work with Stony Brook University Hospital during the early days of Covid-19 as well as exemplary work in stroke care.

The Magnet report noted how clinical nurses, nurse leadership and medical staff led to the successful implementation of Upstate's Convalescent Plasma Program. ANCC especially noted how nurses stepped up to support other nurses early in the pandemic, traveling some 300 miles

to help sister institution Stony Brook University Hospital with its influx of Covid-19 patients.

In addition, the Upstate Comprehensive Stroke Center's Door-to-Needle time outperformed national benchmark statistics for eight quarters, contributing to positive patient outcomes. The faster stroke patients are presented and administered with a thrombolytic agent, the greater chance a patient has for recovery.

"What is so inspiring is that we earned this recognition during a pandemic, when nurses were at the frontlines for hours caring for the very sick and supporting their families in a health care crisis such as we have not experienced before," said Upstate President Mantosh Dewan, MD.

"The process to earn Magnet designation is often called a journey," said Upstate's Chief Nursing Officer Nancy Page, MSN, RN, NEA-BC. "That's exactly what it is. No stone is unturned. We are measured against every kind of standard. On this journey with us are other important departments who support nursing in every way, including Environmental Services, Social Work and Information Management, among many others. Many have had a hand in Upstate receiving this honor."

Upstate employs more than 2,500 nurses.

Adapted from Upstate Online, January 22, 2021 issue

## Golisano Center for Special Needs at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital

When fully open, the new Golisano Center for Special Needs will expand and enhance clinical care, education, basic research, and a full range of support services for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families.

The Upstate Foundation is working to raise at least \$3 million to match a generous gift from philanthropist Tom Golisano. This will provide the new Center with resources to increase the number of children served, decrease wait times, increase programming, educate professionals to enter the I/DD workforce, and promote ongoing research.



"Ballet for All" allows Miracle and other children with physical disabilities such as cerebral palsy and spina bifida explore movement, while strengthening their muscles, through dance.

## FUNDS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Upstate Foundation manages over 1,000 funds, the most of any charitable organization in the region, in support of patient care, education of health care providers and scientific research. The Foundation's total assets are over \$230 million and over the last five years, endowment investments appreciated 11.67 percent on an annualized basis. Below are just a few of the Foundation's many funds.

**Mary and Charlie Haney Cancer Giving Fund #19950** – To support hematology/oncology patients, particularly those in Oswego County.

**Stroke Program Fund #44450** – To promote the care and education of stroke patients at Upstate.

**Nursing Association Membership Fund for Upstate Nursing #28900** – To provide Upstate nurses with memberships to medical nursing associations that are focused around a specialty nursing role.

**Golisano Center for Special Needs Fund #07850** – To support the creation of the Golisano Center for Special Needs.

**Nancy A. Lyon Endowed Nursing Scholarship Fund #67505** – To provide scholarships for nursing students.

To find the fund – or create a new one – that matches your giving interests, contact the Foundation or visit [www.UpstateFoundation.org/fundsearch](http://www.UpstateFoundation.org/fundsearch)

**Upstate Today & Tomorrow** highlights timely ideas and stories showing the profound impact of a planned gift to the Upstate Foundation.

## UPSTATE FOUNDATION

Where your gift impacts the health of the entire region.

**Eileen Pezzi, MPA**  
Vice President for Development

**Carolyn Hendrickson**  
Director of Planned Giving

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