FORCE OF NATURE

Donor and community treasure Sally Risberg gives us an inspiring lesson in living well at any age
Since the hospital opened in 1950, our long history of community partnership has saved lives, improved health and strengthened neighborhoods throughout Sonoma County and the North Coast region. Today, our visionary donors regularly step in to help us provide the next generation of care.

We’re pleased to share the tremendous impact your support makes. We created Giving Matters, our new twice-yearly magazine, to keep our donor community updated on ways philanthropy is advancing health care in our community. In this first issue, you’ll read about Sally Risberg, a remarkable woman who is expressing her love and gratitude for the hospital with a gift to support our cath lab renovations. Her kindness will touch countless lives for years to come. You’ll also read about how, thanks to donor support, our Norma and Evert Person Heart & Vascular Institute is a destination for state-of-the-art cardiovascular diagnosis and treatment.

It’s an honor to be part of this wonderful community of active, involved philanthropists. In our own individual ways, we are making a difference by supporting Providence Santa Rosa Memorial’s culture of outstanding care with compassion.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership over the last 73 years. On behalf of the patients and families who count on us in their times of need, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Heather DeMarinis
Chair, Foundation Board of Directors

Rebecca Kendall
President and CEO of Chief Philanthropy Officer

TO OUR LOYAL SUPPORTERS,
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If you would like to be removed from the Giving Matters mailing list, please contact us at the address above, at 707-547-4680 or SRMHFoundation@providence.org

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Sally Risberg is a force of nature. Active in her senior living community, 90-year-old Sally has a schedule that rivals the average 45-year-old. She served on the resident council, and when her term was up this year, she became the chair of the visual arts committee. In her role, she curates new art every two months for two main corridors in the senior center and plans receptions for the featured artists — some residents and many noted outside artists.

She also plays competitive bocce ball and is serious about winning. “We have almost 200 people playing bocce this year, and it’s super competitive,” she laughs. “We’re practicing, and our coach says we’d better do well this year.”

A busy, happy life
Born in Holyoke, Massachusetts, in 1932, Sally went to Middlebury College in Vermont, where she majored in psychology. “It was a fabulous small and very good liberal arts college,” she remembers. “When I graduated, I knew I wanted to do something tied to psychology.”

She went on to Yale and did research work in psychiatry. “It was fascinating, but the best part was meeting my husband, Don,” she smiles. “He was about to graduate and, at that time, was required to give two years of military service. We married in 1955 and had a two-year honeymoon in Fontainebleau, France, courtesy of the U.S. Army.”

When the couple returned from Europe, they settled in New England. Don worked as an insurance actuary, and Sally was a busy mother of two and a volunteer. In her 40s, when her kids were preparing to leave for college, she decided to go to grad school and become a high school guidance counselor.

“Td watched teens and what they went through, and I wanted to help,” she says. “I got my master’s degree and landed a job in a high school guidance department. I also served as the school’s golf coach. I was there for 18 years and sent many kids out into the world.”

According to Sally, she and Don played a lot of golf, including a dream trip to St. Andrews at age 55. Sally had an inspiration at the 18th hole and proposed to Don that she take a course at the storied golf institution. St. Andrews staff were so impressed by her resume and admission letter that they offered her a spot on the faculty for a semester.

“It was amazing,” she shares. “I was a liaison between the university and prospective students. I traveled all over Scotland and Wales. That was special.”

When Don and Sally, who were the same age, turned 63, they retired. Their son, living in California, encouraged them to move west. “We settled in the Santa Rosa community of Oakmont and stayed for 22 years,” she says. “We left the snow and found the sun and blue skies, and we were happy here.”

When the couple turned 87, they moved to Spring Lake Village, which Sally says is a great community.

Giving back was part of the plan
Don and Sally felt strongly about giving back and supporting the hospital at which they’d both received excellent care. “The hospital was upgrading its three cardiac cath labs, so we gave our contribution to that cause,” says Sally. “Providence Santa Rosa Memorial is the main trauma center from San Francisco to Oregon. The hospital has done a lot of avant-garde planning for the future. They are at the leading edge.”

Sally has a special place in her heart for Memorial Hospital’s staff, especially Tomas Vasiliauskas, M.D. (known to Sally as “Dr. V.”) “All of the staff are very committed,” she says. “You don’t just go for the excellent medical care; you go for the personal care. It shows in everyone I’ve met there. Dr. V exemplifies the culture of caring. He really pays attention and connects with you.”

Recently widowed, Sally remains grateful for her lifetime of love with Don. “We had 64 wonderful years,” she says. “We’ve been lucky.”

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Donor and community treasure Sally Risberg gives us an inspiring lesson in living well at any age

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— Sally Risberg
DONOR IMPACT

and facilities, Providence Santa Rosa Memorial is a destination for patients across the region — from Sacramento to the Oregon border.

“We offer the only structural heart program in the county, meaning procedures that are catheter based that don’t require incisions and fix physical problems with your heart.” says Wendy Dunnagan, R.N., director of nursing for cardiovascular services. “Our highly trained clinicians perform implants, stent placements, heart valve placements, and other procedures in our cath labs, which are the only such advanced labs in Sonoma County and surrounding areas.”

Thanks to our community’s unwavering support, Providence Santa Rosa Memorial recently updated and upgraded two of our cath labs, with a third underway. The renovation of the cath labs was made possible by the generosity of over 450 community members, including key contributions from Norma Person in memory of Evert Person, Ron and Eileen Nelson in memory of Brent Nelson, The Estate of Gary E. Rasche, and Don and Sally Risberg.

Advancements in motion:
modernization of the EP lab

Even as we provide exceptional care today, we continue raising funds to ensure access to the latest tools and breakthrough treatments for years to come.

Donor support is funding the update of the electrophysiology lab (EP lab), an integral part of our comprehensive cardiac program. The EP lab allows caregivers to perform procedures to treat atrial fibrillation (A-fib), such as cardiac ablations, insertion of the WATCHMAN device, and closure of holes in the heart called patent foramen ovales (PFO). They implant defibrillators to treat ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in the EP lab — and many other lifesaving procedures.

Today, Providence Santa Rosa Memorial is the only North Bay region hospital performing these procedures.

“As we look to the future, we have faith that our donor partners will join us in bringing new lifesaving treatment and tools to Providence Santa Rosa Memorial,” says Chuck. “On behalf of a grateful community, we thank those generous philanthropists whose support ensures we continue to offer exceptional care.”

If you would like more information on how you can support heart and vascular care at Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, please contact Stephen Kearns at 707-547-4679 or Stephen.Kearns@stjoe.org.

HEALING DESTINATION

Providing local access to world-class cardiovascular care

Where you get cardiovascular care matters. Thanks to our tremendous community partnership, Northern California residents can count on Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital to provide world-class care to prevent, diagnose, and treat heart and vascular conditions.

With 2,000 heart patients and more than 13,000 cardiac outpatient procedures a year, our team at the Norma and Evert Person Heart & Vascular Institute treat more heart and vascular patients than any other center in the region.

“People often think they have to go to big institutions to get this level of care when it’s available right here at their community hospital,” says Chuck Kassis, chief executive. “The quality and volume of cardiovascular services we provide matches the level of advanced care typically found at university medical centers.”

Ensuring the Norma and Evert Person Heart & Vascular Institute is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and top-flight physicians to serve our local community is a long-standing priority.

“By getting the latest technology, we’re also getting the best surgeons and interventionalists,” says Chuck. “For people who want to practice at the top of their game, Providence Santa Rosa Memorial is where they come.”

Northern California referral hub

Quantum leaps in health care continue, and Providence Santa Rosa Memorial is evolving to stay on the leading edge. Philanthropy has been instrumental in ensuring that the Norma and Evert Person Heart & Vascular Institute is equipped with the latest innovative therapies.

As the only local community hospital with advanced cardiovascular treatment capabilities and facilities, Providence Santa Rosa Memorial is a destination for patients across the region — from Sacramento to the Oregon border.

“We offer the only structural heart program in the county, meaning procedures that are catheter based that don’t require incisions and fix physical problems with your heart.” says Wendy Dunnagan, R.N., director of nursing for cardiovascular services. “Our highly trained clinicians perform implants, stent placements, heart valve placements, and other procedures in our cath labs, which are the only such advanced labs in Sonoma County and surrounding areas.”

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On behalf of a grateful community, we thank those generous philanthropists whose support ensures we continue to offer exceptional care.

— Chuck Kassis, Chief Executive
NEW INCOME FOR YOU WITH A GIFT TO US

Looking for a new source of income? In December 2022, you may recall that Congress gave the American public a last-minute holiday gift when they passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023. Included within this enormous piece of legislation was the SECURE 2.0 Act, which contains numerous and much-anticipated retirement provisions. It also creates a new opportunity for those looking to use retirement assets to support Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital.

What does this new law mean for you? If you are an IRA owner age 70½ or older, SECURE 2.0 provides you with a new way to give using your retirement assets. Beginning in 2023, you can choose to make a one-time distribution of up to $50,000 from your IRA to create a new charitable gift annuity (CGA) or charitable remainder trust (CRT). The CRT can be either a charitable remainder unitrust or a charitable remainder annuity trust. This unique version of a qualified charitable deduction (QCD) also counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) if one is due. Beyond the tax benefits, this QCD option lets you create a new lifetime income stream. If you are married, both you and your spouse may contribute $50,000 each from your own IRAs into a single CRT or a joint-life CGA. However, the law does not allow payments (from the CGA or CRT) to anyone other than the IRA owner or the owner's spouse – not even their children.

The current CGA payout rates are higher than they have been in years:

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<th>Age</th>
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Sample one-life gift annuity rates, effective January 1, 2023.

Questions? Please reach out.

We would be happy to provide additional information, including a personal, confidential illustration showing how a charitable gift annuity might work for you. Contact Liz Tunney Williams by phone at 707-547-4822 or by email at Elizabeth.Williams@stjoe.org.

Consult your advisors when planning an estate gift.

This new QCD option is a great way to:

- Minimize taxes – the distribution counts toward your RMD without increasing your taxable income
- Create a reliable income stream for you and/or your spouse (income payments are taxed as ordinary income)
- Take advantage of the new, higher CGA rates (as of 1/23)
- Help you transform the lives of those we serve
Please make a donation today

Your donation can provide lifesaving care to our community. Please visit give.providence.org/norcal-srmh or scan the code at right to make a gift today.

SANTA ROSA MEMORIAL FOUNDATION
Donor Appreciation Dinner
MAY 31, 2023