

Personal Experience puts Bequest in Focus

LEGACY DONORS

When Liz and Bob Ball met at Process Equipment Company where both worked nearly 50 years ago, it was the beginning of a lifetime commitment.

They were married in October 1973 and have lived in the 1855 house they made their home since that time.

Both worked in the Process Equipment design room but after a couple of years of marriage Liz left to take care of their seven acres, teach at ITT and then "retired" when the couple's two children were born.

Liz Ball in the 1980s started a company, Country Visions. She later sold that venture when she began drawing hidden picture puzzles full time. Those puzzles now are found in many publications and in books.

Bob Ball was head of engineering at Honda in Marysville until retiring in 2007.

The Balls personal experiences helped create the focus of a Tipp City Foundation Legacy Fund.

Bob Ball has Lewy Body Dementia, which is second to Alzheimer's in the number of dementia cases.

The goal of the fund is to "benefit patients and caregivers dealing with brain disorders – Lewy Body Dementia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's Dementia etcetera – with support to help care for patients with cognitive/physical disabilities associated with these diseases. This fund may also provide relief and support for caregivers," Liz Ball said.

The project was selected because the Balls realized in their journey with Lewy Body Dementia how little support or relief was available for these diseases, both for patients and caregivers.

"Working hidden picture puzzles seems to help my husband keep focused and more alert, especially on 'difficult' days. Many similar activities are beneficial for numerous brain disorders," Liz Ball said.

"It's hard for many caregivers to ask for help such as 'babysitters,' aides, etcetera, and time off occasionally so they can rest, regroup or attend support groups to better understand and handle the day-to-day care involved with caring for dementia patients," she said.

The Balls already had a Hidden Picture Puzzles Fund by Liz Ball set up with the Tipp City Foundation, so it made sense to include the foundation in their estate planning, Ball said.

"We have enjoyed living in the area for 48 years. The town has such a special character – great friends, delightful shops, plenty of community activities and events."

Tipp City Foundation

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