

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

Sands through

The Hour-Glass



About

THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME

We are a continuing care retirement community located near historical downtown Plattsmouth. We have served our Masonic family for 117 years. We offer Independent Living, Assisted Living, 24-Hour Nursing Care and Alzheimer's/Dementia Care

For information on The Nebraska Masonic Home Please contact: Chris Abbott Admissions Coordinator at (402) 296-7302 or cabbott@nemh.net

Mission Statement

The Nebraska Masonic Home is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of its residents by offering a continuum of care through gracious assisted living and quality nursing care to eligible members of the Masonic family

The Nebraska Masonic Home
1300 Avenue D
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
Phone: (402) 296-7300
1-800-245-5812
Fax: (402) 296-3855
www.thenebraskamasonichome.org

Happiness is . . . The Nebraska Masonic Home

Think about life after retirement . . . what do you want and what will make you happy?

How about a few suggestions . . .

- someone else to mow the lawn and scoop the snow
- delicious meals prepared and served in the comfort of a beautiful dining room
- entertainment that comes to me
- transportation to medical appointments
- home maintenance that someone else is responsible for
- making new friends
- sharing my life experiences with others
- peace of mind
- making my children happy that I have 24/7 security and quality care givers
- beautiful grounds to enjoy

Life in general presents each of us with worries . . . let The Nebraska Masonic Home take care of some of them for you.

Come **tour The Nebraska Masonic Home** and discover that we truly know about the small details that make a difference. We work together to help residents enjoy the special moments and the everyday moments in life.

Call or email me to schedule a time for a visit on the phone or a tour of the best kept secret in Nebraska Masonry . . . **The Nebraska Masonic Home** . . . a place where you can shine everyday!

Chris Abbott
Admin. Asst./Admissions Coordinator
(402) 296-7302 or cabbott@nemh.net



BE THE REASON SOMEONE SMILES TODAY . . .

Meet Betty Holmstedt . . .



Omaha, Nebraska, was to be the new home for the soon to be born child of Leonard and Ethel Montag. Mrs. Montag put the brakes on any further travel when they approached Council Bluffs, Iowa, as she needed a hospital right then and there. The only child of the Montag's started her life in Council Bluffs.

Betty was a child during the Great Depression. During her childhood, her dad delivered bread with a horse-drawn carriage for

Omar Bakery in Omaha, and her mother was happy to work at Methodist Hospital doing various jobs.

Betty attended Tech High School and then the University of Nebraska at Omaha where she met her future husband Berkley Holmstedt. During Christmas break they ventured off to Paxton, Nebraska, to meet his parents (who had immigrated from Sweden) and Berkley's 14 older siblings. Berkley became part of the 10th Mountain Division as a Ski Trooper in World War II.

In 1949 the couple married and moved to Denver, Colorado. By 1951 Betty was expecting their first child when she informed Berkley that she could not raise this child without her mother, so they moved back to Omaha and had a total of four daughters Rebecca, Cynthia, Deborah, and Kristine. The family has grown to include 6 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Berkley, an electrical engineer for HDR in Omaha, was asked by his boss, Mr. Durham, to sell the idea of nursing homes in small towns through out Nebraska. Berkley came across an already existing nursing home in Plainview that needed help, so he shifted jobs within HDR and took over the nursing home there. Plainview became their home for 22 years. The whole family became knowledgeable about the nursing home business by working there during the time they resided in Plainview.

Betty also worked at the school and eventually opened her own little shop called "Patch Work Place". The store was like patchwork – a little bit of this and a little bit of that.

Bella Vista, Arkansas was home during their retirement years. They spent some time traveling. Berkley loved golfing and fishing, and Betty, being a people person, loved working. Berkley and Betty had a bet . . . for a quarter . . . that Betty couldn't get a job at age 60. Guess who lost that bet . . . Betty worked at Walmart until age 81.

Unfortunately, Berkley got cancer so they moved back to Omaha to be near the VA Hospital. During this difficult time, they lived with their daughter. After Berkley's death, Betty moved to an apartment in Plattsmouth and for a time she worked at The Masonic Home. A few short months ago she was so happy to make another move to an apartment at The Masonic Home.

This happy-go-lucky lady loves her family and friends. She has a smile and kind words for everyone she meets. The move to an apartment at The Masonic Home was a definite plus for her and a reassurance for her family. Betty feels comforted knowing that everything she needs is right here at The Masonic Home . . . warmth, compassion, quality care and peace of mind.

Betty's door is always open . . . come for a tour and she will show you and tell you why she made the decision to make The Masonic Home her home. She is eager to share her story about the difference The Home makes in her life. With a smile on her face and joy in her heart, Betty will graciously tell you, "Once I saw The Nebraska Masonic Home and met the residents and staff, my choice was easy. I experienced an overall peace of mind and knew this was the perfect place for me."



Betty and Corky

The Nebraska Masonic Home

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Happy Summer!!!!

Yes, we have traded the cold of winter and the cool of spring, for the hot of summer. I hope with the heat and hectic pace of summer you are safe and well. I want to thank all of you for your outstanding support of The Nebraska Masonic Home over the past year.

Everyone has felt the effects of dealing with COVID and you have been incredible during a difficult time . . . you are deeply appreciated.

Over the past year my plea has been for funds to help with COVID-related PPE relief. I am so relieved to be asking for your assistance with another project this summer.

The residents of Douglas, Sarpy, Cass, and other surrounding counties experienced quite a windstorm on Friday, July 9th. Personally, our house was without power for over 5 days and our neighborhood looked like a bomb went off with all the tree damage. Here at The Home, we also had a lot of wind damage.

Several trees uprooted, broke or were literally torn in two (or maybe more) pieces by the 85+ mph wind. Of course, our incredible Maintenance Staff made short work of the cleanup of the driveways, parking lots, and sidewalks. The rest of the cleanup was done by a tree service as some of the trees were too large and required a lift.

One other casualty of this storm was the lovely gazebo that sat on the east lawn of The Nebraska Masonic Home. All that remains is the floor.

When this was built the cost was around \$30,000. We are eager to replace this serene spot for residents and visitors and make a few other improvements around the grounds.

If nothing else COVID-19 has taught us how important our outdoor spaces are. We want to provide our residents with comfortable and relaxing benches, as well as sturdy and more weather resistant patio furniture and umbrellas. We all need these outdoor spaces for peace of mind and to enjoy the beautiful scenery and wildlife that The Masonic Home's grounds have to offer.

We want to ask your help to fix and repair the things destroyed by the storm. Your donation will help to ensure that the residents are able to make use of and enjoy the outdoor spaces at The Nebraska Masonic Home.

Your outstanding support has allowed us to accomplish so many wonderful improvements here at The Nebraska Masonic Home. I hope you will find this a worthy project that you can and will support.

Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for The Home. May you have a fantastic summer. Stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

Steven R. Barchus
Foundation Director



HAPPENINGS IN THE HOME



Caring Club Dinner Canceled 2021

We have all been thrilled about the progress we have experienced concerning the pandemic, however as a healthcare facility we are able to allow visitors by appointment only. Sadly, we will not be able to host the Caring Club dinner in September. All plaques and plates will be sent by mail. Thank you for your continued support.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Robin and I have a long history of appreciation for The Masonic Home that goes back to 2005 when Paul's dad, Joe Stoupa called it "home". Mary Stapp and the Masonic caregivers loved and cared for him until his passing in 2010. When loving care was needed for Robin's Mom and Dad there was only one place we all agreed on, The

Masonic Home. Mary Russell and her staff are the very best of the best! They welcomed Phil and Mariel Oftelie with the open arms only the Masonic community offers.

We donate for only one reason, to support a safe-haven that is the true meaning of love and care. A place that can be trusted with those we love so dearly.

Robin and Paul Stoupa
Omaha, NE

ARE YOU OVER 70????

LET THE NEBRASKA MASONIC HOME
HELP YOU WITH YOUR
REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS.
REMEMBER YOUR BROTHERS, SISTERS,
FAMILY, AND FRIENDS.
YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!
CONTACT STEVE BARCHUS
(402) 296-7334



Mary Russell
Executive Director
mrussell@nemh.net
(402) 296-7303



Chris Abbott
Administrative Assistant
Admissions Coordinator
cabbott@nemh.net
((402) 296-7302



Steven R. Barchus
Foundation Director
sbarchus@nemh.net
(402) 296-7334



Lisa M. Davis
Marketing Coordinator
ldavis@nemh.net
(402) 296-7336



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