Thank You, Judy Read

Bath Community Fund and the entire Greater Akron area lost a wonderful friend, mentor and advocate on May 12 when Judy Read left behind these earthly bonds after a courageous, if far too brief (for those who loved and admired her), struggle with stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

Judy and her husband, Roger, were instrumental in establishing Bath Community Fund. Their initial contribution to create the fund as an affiliate of Akron Community Foundation was made almost exactly two years before her death, establishing a legacy that will endure in the Bath community for generations to come.

But it was more than treasure that Judy shared with those of us at BCF. She also shared her absolute joy in creating a way to give back to a community that was a part of her heart; she shared her belief that the fund would grow and benefit the community where she lived and raised her family for most of her adult life; and she shared her steadfast belief in philanthropy as a way to help others, better the community around us, and literally change the world in which we live.

Judy was one of those extraordinary people whose smile could brighten any room; whose eyes could flash in indignation when confronted by injustice; whose quiet but determined resolution could right what she saw as wrong; whose depth of character and unwavering integrity could enlist the help of legions; and whose faith in what was right became a shield to protect and restore.

To have Judy as an advocate was a gift beyond measure and one that will be treasured forever. Her warmth, compassion, never-failing encouragement, and belief in what was possible were the foundations that guided the creation of Bath Community Fund.

Even in death, Judy continues to give generously. In late May, Bath Community Fund received word that upon her death, Judy gifted the fund with $25,000. Always planning for the future and always giving back, that was Judy. Thank you, Judy, not only for what you made of yourself, but for what you are making of all of us! One life lived, many lives touched.

Memorial and Tribute Gifts

In the weeks since Judy’s passing, many people have made gifts to Bath Community Fund in recognition of her enduring commitment to Bath. Memorial and tribute gifts are a wonderful way to recognize friends, colleagues or loved ones while making a permanent impact in our community. To make a gift in someone’s honor, visit www.akroncf.org/give/BCF, and we’ll send them a card acknowledging your gift in their name.

Leave Your Own Mark on Bath

Like Judy Read, you, too, can leave a lasting legacy in the community you love. Making a gift to Bath Community Fund through your will or trust is a simple and tax-friendly way to improve the quality of life in Bath Township now and for future generations.

Learn more about all of your giving options and get sample bequest language by downloading our free planned giving guide at www.akroncf.org/BCFplannedgifts.

“...And what is to cease breathing, but to free the breath from its restless tides, that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered? Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing. And when you have reached the mountaintop, then you shall begin to climb. And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance.” — Kahlil Gibran