

Kitty Gerling



When Kathryn, “Kitty” Gerling started in the banking business in 1950, it was a ‘man’s world,’ not particularly welcoming to women who wanted a seat at the table. Kitty would have to prove herself time and again to be accepted but she persevered, becoming president and CEO of Midstate Federal Savings and Loan, located on York Road near the medical center. Her work ethic, business acumen, and sharp intellect earned her the respect of her peers in the banking world. She played an active role at Midstate for an incredible 64 years. At age 93, Kitty is the Chairman Emeritus of Midstate Federal Savings and Loan.

It is not surprising that a woman of Kitty’s intelligence would recognize it in others. When she was diagnosed with colon cancer she turned to the Wound and Ostomy Center at University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center and found a kindred spirit in Sue Currence, RN, director of the Center. “We started with a professional relationship as she took fantastic care of me and then we became fast friends,” says Kitty.

“I believe it takes a truly special person to devote her career to wound and ostomy care,” she continues. “These conditions can have chronic problems in addition to psychological challenges and take an exceptional amount of compassion on the part of the caregiver. Sue has this in spades.”

“I’ve chosen to support St. Joe’s because I know quality and kindness when I see it. I also know how rare a combination that can be in the business of health care. Sue sets the bar high for herself and others. I’m blessed to be the recipient of her care and able to make substantial gifts that will allow for advanced educational opportunities for physicians and nurses who work in the Wound and Ostomy Care Center.”

Kitty does not let advancing age slow her down for a minute, attending Orioles games in her “spare” time. She also comes to special events and celebrations at the medical center, including the 150th Anniversary Gala, held at SECU Arena on September 13, 2014.