

OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIST AWARD

Joseph & Joanne LaRose



Born and raised in Akron, Joe and Joanne LaRose have devoted their lives to serving the needs of others in our community. Their continual service to this community inspired Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens to nominate them for the Outstanding Philanthropist Award.

As philanthropists, volunteers, community leaders, and friends to many local charities, this special couple served and inspired thousands during their 65-year marriage. Joe and Joanne were often described as people who “knew no strangers” with the unique ability to embrace people of all backgrounds with their kindness. In addition to Stan Hywet, they have generously supported The Interval Brotherhood Home, PAWSibilities, Haven of Rest, Summa Health System, and Saint Anthony Church, to name a few.

Devotion to family, faith, and community was evident in the life of Joe LaRose, who left college in 1941 to serve as a U.S. Marine in World War II and arrived home to begin a family business that would share its success with the people and places he and Joanne loved and admired. Few have achieved so much for so many with the humility that inspires the best in others rather than seeking rewards. The generosity of Joe and Joanne can be seen and experienced throughout the community and the Stan Hywet Estate. Whether a major leadership gift to launch a campaign or a supply of coats and hats to ensure that staff are warm as they serve winter guests, they have always offered their kind support. Despite the passing of Joe in 2012, the family continues to embody his generous spirit and the Seiberling motto of *Non Nobis Solum* – Not for Us Alone.

nominated by

**Stan Hywet
Hall & Gardens**