

LCH Trustees Create Nursing Scholarship to Honor Alan Davis

DAMARISCOTTA – A new scholarship will honor the memory of Alan Davis, a long-time member of the Miles Health Care Board of Trustees who was a driving force in the effort to bring a nursing program to Lincoln County.



Alan Davis

Davis, 80, of Walpole, died Jan. 14, leaving a legacy of service that began when he enlisted in the army at 17 and continued long after he retired from the American Cancer Society as Vice President of Governmental Relations. Davis served many years on the board of Miles Health Care and was a strong advocate for a nursing school.

Phil Lathrop, Chairman of the Lincoln County Healthcare Board, said the board felt the scholarship is a fitting way to honor Davis' hard work and vision.

Davis recognized the need to train nurses to serve the people of Lincoln County and also to bring education to people who are unable to leave their community to attend school full-time, said Lathrop.

"It was to create opportunities for local folks, people who can't take two or four years off and go to school full-time," said Lathrop.

Alan had a way of making sure things got done, even if they weren't done as quickly as he would have liked, said Lathrop.

"He was very low key, but persistent and effective. He had a good sense of humor and knew how to use it to move things ahead and not get bogged down," said Lathrop.

Cathy Cole, Director of the Education Department at Lincoln County Healthcare, said Davis formally presented the idea of a nursing school affiliated with Miles Memorial Hospital to the Board of Miles Health Care about nine years ago.

Despite setbacks, Davis remained committed to the idea even after he left the board and Lincoln County Healthcare was formed through the integration of administrative and clinical elements of Miles Health Care and St. Andrews Hospital and Health Care Center.

"He was just a hard working person. He was a very forward thinking, visionary kind of person, always looking at things from a different angle," said Cole. "Everything he did, he seemed to do 100 percent."

Cole said she is very happy that Davis lived to see the new school open in 2008 and begin to fulfill his vision of helping people realize their dream of becoming nurses while also maintaining the quality of care the community expects and deserves.

Beginning this fall, when a grant will be given to a second-year student and an incoming student, there will be an Alan Davis scholar in each graduating class in the nursing program at the Lincoln County Healthcare/Central Maine Community College Education Center.