

# “They were just so wonderful!” - Bob Tuttle

Bob Tuttle is a big guy. He's an over-the-road trucker. He has well over 10 million miles behind the wheel and he's only been involved in one highway mishap in the over 50 years he's been on the road (and, he points out—it wasn't his fault!). Like most professional drivers, Bob is one tough cookie. Yet, when you mention Madison County Memorial Hospital, you meet a different Bob.

Bob and Glenda (Stevie) Tuttle had a wonderful life. Not without its challenges, but, by-and-large they had a grand time raising their kids in Winterset and making a nice comfortable home for themselves. Bob came to the conclusion early on that over-the-road trucking was the way to make their living. Bob has many stories of the millions of miles he's covered in “the big rig.” He was especially happy when Stevie decided to join him on the road.

In the late 1990s, Stevie developed Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. In July of 2009, she came to Madison County Memorial Hospital for her final trip. They lived less than a block from the hospital, so there was no question in their minds that that's where they would go to seek care. “You know,” said Bob, “I just can't say enough about the care Stevie received at the hospital. The nurses, doctors and staff were just so special to Stevie and to me; I just think the world of them.” He said, “I like to go from department to department just to tell the staff how wonderful they are and thank them again for the great care they gave Stevie and the compassion they showed me and my family.” Getting a little “misty-eyed,” Bob tells of Stevie's last days and how the hospital staff was so caring. He said, “I miss Stevie every

single day, but I am also reminded of how the hospital experience was such a heart-warming thing. They (the staff) knew I was hurting and they not only took good care of my wife, but they were also there for me and the family too.” He said, “I just love those gals who looked after Stevie.”

Bob approached the hospital last year about doing something in memory of Stevie and purchased a leaf on the Giving Tree. He subsequently purchased another to show his appreciation for the hospital. Then, Bob decided he wanted to do more, and notified the hospital that he would like to be a member of the Legacy Society. Bob has made plans to remember the hospital when he passes on. He's decided to leave a legacy for future generations. He knows how important it was for Stevie and how important it is for the folks in the Winterset area to have a hospital, so Bob decided he'd like to do something to ensure that future. He said, “This hospital is so wonderful and the people who work there are so great, I wanted to do something to show how much they're appreciated. I figured one way to do that would be to do what I could to make sure this hospital is around in the future, and through the Legacy Society I did it.”

If you would like to consider a gift, or if you would like to join Bob and others as a member of our Legacy Society, contact the Public Relations/Development Office at the hospital (515) 462-9749. To be a member of the Legacy Society nothing is required other than to notify us that you have made arrangements to remember the hospital financially. No specific amount is required.



**Bob Tuttle**

**Cover photo shows new Medical Surgical wing located south of the 1949 Hospital structure. Dedicated in December of 2011.**