



Elizabeth Stifel Kline - *Philanthropy*

Elizabeth Stifel Kline will be remembered throughout the Wheeling community for her lifetime of public service, philanthropy, and commitment to those organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life for all its citizens.

She was born in Wheeling on January 10, 1925, the daughter of Elizabeth Stevenson and Henry George Stifel. Elizabeth was a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a life-long member of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Wheeling.

The imprint of her service to Wheeling can be seen among every demographic group and neighborhood throughout the city.

Elizabeth was an organizer and weekly volunteer at the St. Matthew's Food Pantry. She was an advocate for the education of the fine arts through her support of the Stifel Fine Arts Center of the Oglebay Institute where she was also an active member and chair of Fine Arts Centers' Garden Committee. She served as a trustee for the George E. Stifel Scholarship Fund which annually provides scholarships to students in the Ohio County public schools for outstanding academic achievement. The construction of a multi-purpose shelter at the Tunnel Green recreational complex in East Wheeling was made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Kline. In 2000 Elizabeth was recognized for her community service by being honored as a recipient of the NAACP Community Service Award.

Elizabeth was a member and President of the Junior League of Wheeling, a founding member of the Victorian Wheeling Society, a member of the Cedar Twig of the Ohio Valley Medical Center, a Grey Lady volunteer at Wheeling Hospital, and a leader in fund development for the YWCA of Wheeling.

She served on the board of directors of Wheeling College (now Wheeling Jesuit University); The Charter Guild of Wheeling College; was chairperson of the YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program Advisory Council; Elmhurst, The House of Friendship, Inc.; and the Children's Home of Wheeling. She was president of the boards at Elmhurst and the Children's Home.

Because of her philanthropic spirit and sense of giving back to the community, the Stifel Fine Arts Center of Oglebay Institute, Ohio Valley Medical Center, The Linsly School, Wheeling Jesuit University, Children's Home of Wheeling, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Vance Presbyterian Church, and Elmhurst, House of Friendship, just to name a few, have all benefited from the gifts of Elizabeth Kline.

Elizabeth Stifel Kline created her foundation to support the non-profit organizations which make a difference in the lives of the people of the community in which she was a volunteer, community leader, and philanthropist. Since her death, the Trustees have continued the Stifel philanthropic legacy through sponsorships of community outreach programs and support for local non-profit organizations which demonstrate initiatives important to Elizabeth Kline. Among the many programs made possible by the grants from the Foundation are the popular Sunday evening Summer Entertainment Series at Oglebay Park, annual concerts of the Wheeling Symphony, the Kline Exhibition at Oglebay Institute, the Food Pantry at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and the capital campaign of Valley Hospice.

Elizabeth Kline had four children: Elizabeth Suzanne Kline Collins, Kenneth Kerwood Kline Jr., M.D., who preceded his mother in death, Stevenson Stifel Kline, and John Craft Wright Kline.