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Spotlight

IN MEMORY OF TERRI & RUDY SUNDBERG

— INTERVIEW BY ROSANNE MCGUIRE

Old World Foundation lost one of its long-time supporters. Terri Sundberg, who spent 17 years at Old World as a part of the volunteer gardening team passed away in December.

Terri, and her husband Rudy who died in 2022, had been supporters of Old World Foundation for 23 years. After retirement and a move from Illinois to Wisconsin, Terri became a master gardener through the program at UW-Extension. She helped in the greenhouses at Old World, and tended the gardens on the property. As a Town of Geneva commissioner, she even organized a garlic mustard festival. Residents were encouraged to pull the invasive species, and recipes were available as residents were encouraged to eat the edible plant.

As a resident of a retirement community, Terri took on one of the renovations of the gardens, a project that the residents at Eastcastle Place in Milwaukee will enjoy for years to come.

Terri and Rudy's grandchildren always enjoyed a trip to Old World Wisconsin when they would visit from Michigan. Terri's daughter Anita O'Brien says, like their grandmother, both her sons are avid gardeners as adults.

O'Brien says the education that Old World provides was very important to both her parents. They always enjoyed history and learning what early settlers faced when arriving in Wisconsin. The annual Christmas events were some of their favorite activities at Old World Wisconsin.

"I know Old World always had a very special place in Mom's heart. Of course, her many years volunteering sealed the deal, but she wouldn't have spent so much time there had she not believed in its importance. Genealogy was a passion of hers and the history of Wisconsin displayed in such a creative and accessible way reflected some of her own family's immigrant and farming history. Though she wasn't able to visit as often in later years, she did keep up with the developments at Old World through the years," said O'Brien.

Terri, anticipating her death from cancer, wrote her own obituary and in it shared how grateful she was to be surrounded by family and friends. "Me, I've felt so much love through this journey that I thought my heart would burst before the rest of me gave out."

That full heart will be missed.

Photos
Provided By:
Anita O'Brien



**OUR THANKS TO THE SUNDBERGS
FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SUPPORT!**



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