

Huby Newton

KDCCP Visionary Leadership Award

Awarded in recognition and gratitude for the energy, vision and dedication he brought into creating what has today become the Kiwanis Doernbecher Children's Cancer Program and for his untiring, enthusiastic and continued support for the program throughout he last twenty five years.

In 1983, the Osmond Foundation created the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) to support the children's hospitals in North America. Doernbecher Children's Hospital was one of the first 15 hospitals approached by Children's Miracle Network and joined the network in 1984.

As part of its fundraising effort, CMN recruited national sponsors. Kiwanis International signed on in 1985. Clubs were asked to work with the CMN hospitals in their regions to raise funds locally. 100% of the funds raised in each community went to the local hospital.

By the end of 1985, the Governor of PNW District Gene O'Brien appointed Huby Newton Chair for the Kiwanis CMN partnership in the PNW. In January 1986, Huby and Gene had their first meeting with the Doernbecher Foundation staff. Under Huby's leadership, they put together a fund raising campaign collecting coins in soft drink cans provided by Pepsi. The empty Pepsi cans with a slit in the lid were distributed to 140 clubs in Oregon and SW Washington in early April. The culmination of the campaign coincided with the Telethon the first week of June. Huby led a dedicated group of Kiwanian volunteers who

used the Pepsi cans to assemble a map of the state in Pioneer Courthouse Square. The first fundraising drive raised about \$7,000 for Doernbecher.

In 1989 Dr. Robert C. Neerhout, who was then the chairman of pediatrics and division head of the pediatric cancer program, asked Kiwanis to make a multi-year commitment to build a bone marrow transplant unit. Thus began another project for Kiwanis. Huby Newton and Gene O'Brien were co-chairs of this effort, called the BMTU program. They designed the three-year campaign in collaboration with Dr. Neerhout and Dan Lucas of the Doernbecher Foundation. The goal was to raise \$100,000. Once the new unit opened, Kiwanis' annual gift helped recruit and support a bone marrow transplant specialist, Dr. Ted Moore, as director of the transplantation program

In 1998 the new Doernbecher opened. Its top floor was dedicated to the pediatric hematology/oncology program. Six rooms in the new cancer unit were designed with special ventilation systems to accommodate children undergoing transplantation and named in honor of Kiwanis. With such a center the need for a discreet bone marrow transplant unit went away.

The new hospital provided Kiwanis with a new opportunity to help elevate Doernbecher to a world class children's cancer center. After Dr. Neerhout's death in 1994, he was succeeded by Dr. F. Leonard Johnson as head of pediatric hematology/oncology and later as chairman of pediatrics. Dr.

Johnson asked Kiwanis to invest in training the next generation of doctors and researchers by establishing a fellowship program. With this change in mission, the Kiwanis Bone Marrow Transplant Unit fundraising entity renamed itself as the Kiwanis Doernbecher Children's Cancer Program (KDCCP). Now retired Gene O'Brien became the first president of the KDCCP Board and Hubby Newton continued to serve on the Board, which set an annual goal of \$100,000 to sponsor two fellows.

To quote Dr. Stacy Nicholson, who succeeded Dr. Johnson as division chief of oncology and physician-in-chief of Doernbecher, "Whenever we contribute to the cure of a child with cancer, Kiwanians are part of it." The cures of today and those of the future are the legacy of Hubby Newton, Gene O'Brien and the hundreds of devoted Kiwanians who have worked hand-in-hand with Doernbecher's caregivers and the Foundation staff to create one of the world's most respected children's cancer programs.