

# Gifts Gets Personal

DONORS CHOOSE  
UNIQUE METHOD  
TO SHOW APPRECIATION

Donations to Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation are usually directed to the area of greatest need and invariably take the form of financial bequests of cash, securities, or property. But Greg and Stacey Renker of Harbor Springs and Indian Wells, California — already donors to the Foundation — have made their gift distinctly personal. In keeping with Nurses Appreciation Week in May the couple gave gift bags to the entire Hospital nursing staff for the second consecutive year.

The Renkers have a special appreciation for the nursing profession. “We have a certain feeling about nurses,” Greg says. “They are often unheralded, and their intuitive caring, awesome nurturing, and scientific expertise really impress us.” The Renkers developed this appreciation for nursing by way of two life threatening medical emergencies: in 1998, Greg had emergency open heart surgery, and in 2003, Stacey suffered multiple organ failure due to a severe Streptococcus bacterial infection. Another source of this appreciation comes from the fine service Renker’s father received in the late 1990s. “My father received extraordinary care (at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital),” he says. “The nurses were so warm and caring and we came away with an acute awareness of their power and impact; the nursing staff at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital has such a strong sense of community and camaraderie.”

“We are deeply moved by Greg and Stacey’s kindhearted generosity,” says Moon Seagren, Chief Development Officer for Northern Michigan Regional Hospital Foundation.” On their part, the nurses were very, very grateful. “Their letters and comments went far beyond our expectations,” says Greg. “Their level of gratitude reminded me of why we wanted to give the gift in the first place.”



Left: Chosen from the Guthy-Renker line of products, nursing gifts included skin care and beauty products for women, plus DVDs and hair care products for men. Pictured are Northern Michigan Regional Hospital nurses, (from left), Judie Bricker, Deb Callender, and Alison Sibbald, three of the 682 Hospital nurses. Above: Greg and Stacey Renker.

