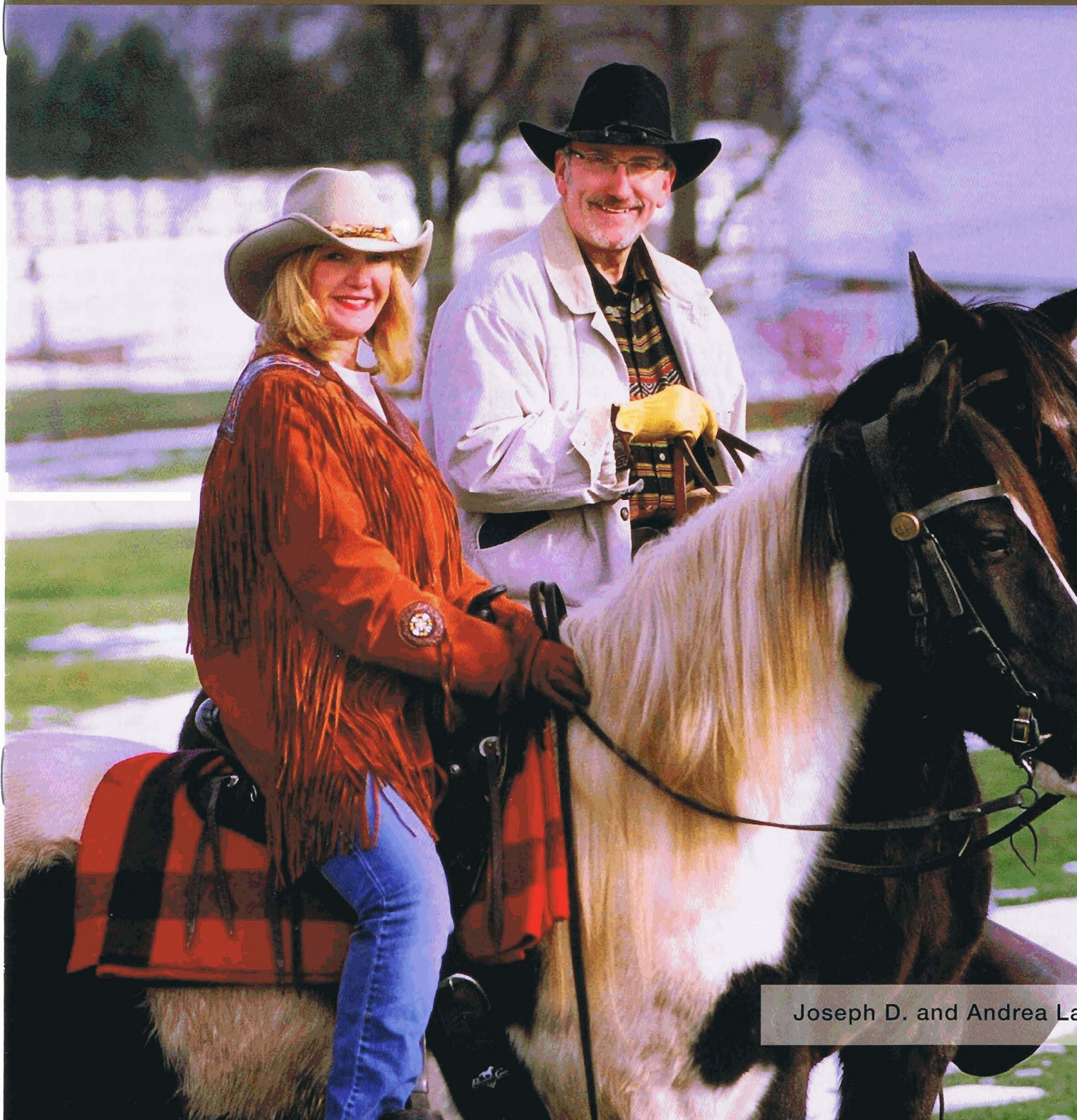


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# Heart *of the* MISSION

Humility of Mary Health Partners Development Foundation • Spring 2010



Joseph D. and Andrea La

## A Desire To Help Others

### GIVING IS A WAY OF LIFE FOR THE LANE FAMILY

For Joseph D. and Andrea Lane, getting on a horse is as good as it gets. Both are avid riders and spend as much time on horseback as possible. The concentration and focus needed to communicate with their animal is, for them, total relaxation. Joe says, “There’s nothing more spiritual than being on a horse on a snowy morning, all white snow with the breath coming out of the horse’s nose as you walk across a little creek and the ice cracks under the horse’s hooves. Talk about being close to God! It’s such a great feeling!”

Riding may be in his blood. Joe’s ancestors fought in the Civil War in the cavalry unit. As a child, Joe’s parents, Joseph O. and Jerry Lane, would take him on history trips down south. To this day, Joe and Andrea still have a great interest in the Civil War, visiting sites such as Gettysburg, Fredericksburg and Antietam. Joe’s family business, Lane Funeral Homes, dates back to that era. Joe traces the family’s sense of philanthropy and giving back to that time as well. Joe notes that his father and grandfather both instilled in him the desire to help others.

Lane Funeral Homes is one of the 100 oldest family-owned businesses in the United States. The Lane family has been taking care of funeral needs in this community since 1855! A lot has changed since then, but two things have remained consistent – the compassion shown to the families they serve and the desire to give back.



The projects the Lane family has supported over the years grew in size as the business began to expand from its first funeral home in Mineral Ridge. The “Joe Lane Sports Complex,” in honor of the senior Joe, stands just a few miles from this first location. You can relax in the Joseph O. Lane reading room at the Austintown library. The Cortland clock tower was also a project they supported. In Warren, the Lanes have promoted the Spectacle of Speed art exhibit and have been the main sponsors of the soap box derby in both Mahoning and Trumbull counties. And there are many others. Joe and Andrea always felt it was right to support projects in the specific communities where they do business. Then they were approached by Humility of Mary Health Partners (HMHP) Development Foundation to co-chair the campaign for the proposed “Joanie Abdu Comprehensive Breast Care Center.” Joe says, “This was a project a little bigger in scope. It exceeded the community boundaries. It has a larger footprint as far as impact on the Valley.”

In addition to running the funeral homes, Joe is also CEO of Lane LifeTrans Paramedics and is the founding attorney of Lane & Rusu Company LPA, a law firm specializing in elder care issues. Joe has a soft spot for St. Elizabeth Health Center because of the paramedic business. There were no local paramedics until 1978, when the Lane ambulance service started paramedic training. They faced a lot of skepticism and resistance from the medical community. St. Elizabeth, however, was the exception. Joe remembers, “St. E’s allowed us to do our practical stuff in the E.R. We learned how to do intubations from the anesthesia department. They did a lot to help paramedics get started in Mahoning County.”

# A Way of Life

Between the three businesses, Joe says he and Andrea see a lot of sadness. Getting involved with The Joanie Abdu Comprehensive Breast Care Center, where patients suffering from breast cancer will get prompt, coordinated care unlike anything currently offered in this region, seemed like a great fit. In addition, the issue hit close to home. A close relative of Andrea's from the Boston area was diagnosed with breast cancer several years ago. Joe and Andrea saw the struggles a family deals with when the diagnosis is made. They also saw the difference when a woman is treated at a *comprehensive* breast care center. Joe says, "The thought of being involved with something that could have a positive effect on a potentially tragic situation really made us think this is a project worth our time." Andrea noted how the Faulkner Sagoff Breast Center in Boston became a draw for not only that region, but the rest of the United States.

"This facility will be a destination point for people going through this, not only in our own community. This project will really help the Valley," explains Joe. Statistics show improved outcomes for women treated at comprehensive breast care centers. Mortality rates for inner city minorities diagnosed with breast cancer are high. That just didn't sit right with Joe and Andrea. "How do we knock down boundaries that exist by income, location, race, sex, religion? This is the first project I've seen that from the get-go was put together that way," Joe points out. The Lanes have not only made a very generous pledge to the project, they have such a strong belief in its success that they decided to co-chair the campaign. HMHP President and CEO Bob Shroder says, "The Lanes have been very generous in their gift to the comprehensive breast care center. We are grateful to them for their leadership and commitment to HMHP."

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long after they're gone. With 200 employees among the three businesses, Joe is quick to point out his family felt gratitude towards those who work with them. "Part of giving back, the ability to give back, comes from all of our people. We couldn't do any of the things we do if we didn't have really good people." Andrea adds, "We have a philosophy of what you do comes back to you. We've lived good lives from these businesses and this community." When the campaign is completed, and the Joanie Abdu Comprehensive Breast Care Center is up and running, Joe suspects they'll look back, take a deep breath and say "yes, that was time well spent."



"Having Joe and Andrea's support of this project is wonderful. They're really committed and enthusiastic about it. We've developed a great partnership and an enduring friendship as a bonus!" says Gina Marinelli, development officer with the Humility of Mary Health Partners Development Foundation.

Future philanthropy is very important to the Lane family. Before his father passed away in 2002, Joe and he made an agreement to create the Lane Family Foundation. They want the giving to continue