



Serenity Lane has been saving lives  
and helping put families back  
together since 1973



Please contact Serenity Lane to discuss how you  
can contribute to the Tops Fellowship through  
Living Trusts, Gift Annuities, Real Estate or Life  
Insurance.

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## SERENITY LANE'S Tops Fellowship



*Dr. Tom Kerns and his wife "Tops"*



## Legacy Planning

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## Who was Tops?

In 1973, Dr. Thomas Kerns, with his wife "Tops" by his side, founded Serenity Lane, thereby fulfilling his vision of providing treatment to those who suffered from the disease of alcoholism.

Dr. Kerns had become an orphan at age 16 when his father died from the effects of alcoholism. Tom's father had been in an accident while driving drunk and while convalescing from his injuries, developed a bleeding ulcer, which took his life. Both the accident and the ulcer illustrate the potentially fatal effects of alcoholism. That incident, and his father's drinking in general, became the catalyst for Tom's desire to seek a way to treat alcoholics.

Tops played an indispensable supporting role in the founding of Serenity Lane. She served as Tom's sounding board and provided moral support as he traveled throughout Oregon to raise money. She helped paint the walls when they converted an old fraternity house into Serenity Lane's new home. After Serenity Lane was up and running, she hosted many social events, especially to honor the staff. She did all of this while managing the household and taking care of eight children!

Today, Serenity Lane continues to provide a healing environment in which chemically dependent individuals and their families discover an enhanced quality of life through long-term recovery from alcoholism and drug abuse.

## Legacy Planning: Does your estate plan reflect your values?

People who join the Tops Fellowship do so because they value recovery. This is why they have decided to make Serenity Lane a part of their Legacy Plan. With the help of a Financial Advisor you can leave more of your assets to a cause you care for, and leave less to chance. Careful estate planning allows you to have a plan by design, not a plan by default.



## Become a Member of the Tops Fellowship

You can become a member of the Tops Fellowship by including Serenity Lane in your estate plans. Through bequests, charitable trusts, gift annuities, gifts of life insurance and other forms of planned giving you can ensure future generations will have a chance at a better life. Members of the Tops Fellowship have the distinct satisfaction of knowing that their generous support will help to sustain the work that Serenity Lane's founders began more than 40 years ago.

**Becoming a member is simple.** All you have to do is notify the Serenity Lane Development Office that you have included Serenity Lane in your estate plans and you will be registered as a member of the Tops Fellowship. If you would like to include Serenity Lane in your estate planning but do not have a Financial Advisor, call us. We can help.

## Tops Fellowship Recognition

Tops Fellowship members will be acknowledged in a prominent place of honor at Serenity Lane's Coburg campus. You will also be invited to special events exclusively for Tops Fellowship members.

This is what Larry L. our founding Tops Fellowship Member said when asked why he decided to include Serenity Lane in his estate plan:

"You've heard of the saying 'First Things First'. Well, I took care of first things first, I am in recovery. Now it is time to take care of 'Second Things Second' and support others who will be searching for recovery in the future. I value recovery and that is why I included Serenity Lane in my estate plan."

*Serenity Lane is a not-for-profit organization formed under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code. Tax ID: 94-3113708*