

# VSP Newsletter March 2024

## VSP Board

**Chair**  
*Open*

**Interim Chair**  
*Anne Coldwell*  
[amc57@comcast.net](mailto:amc57@comcast.net)

**Secretary and Membership**  
*Karen Kutzner*  
[kutznk@msn.com](mailto:kutznk@msn.com)

**Social Events**  
*Jan Miskowic*  
763-425-0508  
[miskojan@hotmail.com](mailto:miskojan@hotmail.com)

**Volunteer Events**  
*Anne Coldwell*  
[amc57@comcast.net](mailto:amc57@comcast.net)

**Newsletter**  
*Pat Eichers*  
[2325echo@gmail.com](mailto:2325echo@gmail.com)  
*Carol Riach*  
[cariach@comcast.net](mailto:cariach@comcast.net)

**Treasurer**  
*Denise Corbett*  
763-502-1018  
[ddmc55@comcast.net](mailto:ddmc55@comcast.net)

**Board Members at Large**  
*Bob Gabler*  
*Donna Bailey*  
*Kathleen Hokemeir-Seim*  
*Patrick Johnson*  
*Tim DeLapp*

**Website**  
<http://mdt retirees.org/>



*Medtronic VSP  
Retiree Group  
Minnesota*

## **Learning – Connecting – Serving**

### **In this issue:**

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## **Webmaster Position Open**

**Webmaster** – Since our group’s inception, the website has been managed by Jerry Hartlaub. Jerry would like to pass the baton (or mouse) to a new webmaster who would take on a range of responsibilities including web design, routine site and content maintenance, and various updates to ensure the site aligns with the goals and objectives of our group.

Please contact any of the board members listed on this page to discuss these opportunities.

## **New Member at Large Joins VSP Board**

We’d like to welcome Kathleen Hokemeir-Seim who is joining the VSP board as a member at large. We look forward to her input and insights to the group. Kathleen can be reached at [kathleenmarie820@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenmarie820@gmail.com)

## **Recent VSP Team Volunteer Event** **Bridging in Roseville – February 13**

Thanks to the group of volunteers who participated!





*Medtronic VSP  
Retiree Group  
Minnesota*



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## Spring 2024 Informal Gathering

Spring is in the air -- well, let's face it, it's been in the air since November -- however, many Medtronic retirees will soon be returning from theoretically warmer climates to enjoy our Minnesota summer.

Please join fellow retirees for an informal Happy Hour gathering to stay connected and socialize.

Date: March 21, 2024

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Place: The Brooklyn Restaurant and Bar

Located at Edinburgh Golf Course

8700 Edinburgh Crossing

Brooklyn Park, MN

- ❖ A special area within the bar will be reserved for our group.
- ❖ Enjoy a cash bar with Happy Hour drink and appetizer specials.
  - ❖ No advance registration required!

## Upcoming VSP Team Volunteer Events

- ❖ Feed My Starving Children – March 13, 2024 – Registration is open until March 6th

Date: Wednesday, March 13

Time: 9:30 am – 11:15 am

Location: 401 93rd Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN

### To register:

1. Sign into the Retiree Medtronic Foundation Volunteer and Giving Website:  
<https://medtronic.yourcause.com/auth/basic>
2. Click on Volunteer and search for “Medtronic Retiree Event – Feed My Starving Children
3. Click “Sign Up” and choose the main session

- ❖ The Food Group – Thursday, April 11 – Registration is Open

To register: See Your Cause link above.

Search term in Your Cause: Medtronic Retiree Event – The Food Group

Date: Thursday, April 11

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: 8501 54th Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55428

- ❖ Global Health Ministries – Wednesday, May 15 – Registration is Open

To register: See Your Cause link above

Search Term in Your Cause: Medtronic Retiree Event – Global Health Ministries

Date: Wednesday, May 15

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: 7831 Hickory Street NE, Minneapolis, Mn 55432

Note: If you would like to volunteer and have trouble accessing the Your Cause site, please contact Anne Coldwell at [amc57@comcast.net](mailto:amc57@comcast.net)

## In Memoriam

Two titans of Minnesota's medical device industry recently passed. Norman Dann, former Medtronic Vice President, and Tom Holloran, Medtronic Legal Counsel and former President.



### Norman Dann

Engineer, entrepreneur, executive, artist, investor, father, husband, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend, Norman Dann reluctantly left this world surrounded by family and his beautiful wife of 71 years, Beverly. A fierce survivor of heart disease, cancer caught him at 96 on February 10, 2024. His humor, love, and dinner table lecture series will remain with us always. Born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1927 to Morris and Stella Dann, he learned scarcity drives ingenuity. His mother baked bread in tin cans and his father engineered lab equipment in their basement. After completing officer training with the Navy and graduating from Penn State, Norman dreamed of starting his own business bringing life-saving medical equipment (some created in his father's basement) to market. He left a job at Designers For Industry and turned down an offer at Procter & Gamble to start the Dann Company in 1960. The company thrived bringing disposable needles, infant resuscitators, heart monitors and cardiac pacemakers to market.

Medtronic purchased the Dann Company in 1972 and Norman generously distributed stock from the purchase to his employees and moved his family from Cleveland to Minneapolis. He continued to pioneer work in the medical device industry as a Vice President for Medtronic and subsequently through Pathfinder Venture Capital, investing in biomedical companies and technology. When not working, he enjoyed time outdoors near any body of water, playing tennis, sculpting beautiful art from stone, fixing almost anything and spending time with his family. The funeral is available on zoom at: [www.hodroffs.com/NormanDann](http://www.hodroffs.com/NormanDann).



## Tom Holloran

Thomas Holloran, a lawyer and former Medtronic executive, died February 15, 2024 at age 94.

In nearly a century of life, Holloran accomplished many feats in the business, legal, academic and political worlds. He left his legacy on the University of St. Thomas as an instrumental part of opening the college's law school in 2001 and founding the Holloran Center for Ethical Leadership there in 2006.

Holloran was a Minnesotan through-and-through. Born in 1929, he grew up in south Minneapolis before attending Washburn High School and the University of Minnesota. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1952-54 during the Korean War before starting his career at Wheeler and Fredrikson law firm, which evolved into Fredrikson & Byron.

While at the firm, Holloran incorporated Medtronic in 1957. He later joined the med-tech company in executive roles serving as general counsel, then executive vice president and ultimately president. He worked at Medtronic from 1967-75 and joined its board of directors in 1960, serving on it for 40 years.

Holloran also led the Inter-Regional Financial Group, parent of investment banking company RBC Dain-Rauscher, as chairman and CEO from 1976-85. He then joined St. Thomas to teach.

In addition to his business endeavors, Holloran served on boards for a wide range of companies including ADC Telecommunications, the Center for Diagnostic Imaging, Flexsteel Industries, Malt-O-Meal Co., MTS Systems, Polaris Industries, National City Bank and Bank of America. He was also the mayor of Shorewood for three years and served on the Metropolitan Airports Commission for 10 years, including as chair from 1989-91. He was also on St. Thomas' board from 1979-89.

Holloran's wife, Patty, survives him. The couple married in 1954 and would have celebrated a 70th wedding anniversary in June. His daughter, Anne Holloran, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive him. Another daughter, Mary, died in 2017.

"I don't think that there has ever been a harsh word said about him," Anne Holloran said. "He lived a long, beautiful, rich, full life."

*Both obituaries edited from StarTribune articles*

## Sources of Retiree Information

As VSP Board Members, we get many questions from retirees as to where they can obtain information on their benefits, how to get Medtronic Foundation grants and charitable giving matches, or whom to contact if they have questions. Listed below are the key sources for that information.

### A. Benefits

1. Go to [benefits.medtronic.com](https://benefits.medtronic.com)
2. Click on **Retirees** on the top line of the page
3. If you have not done so, please register to create a username and password. This will give you access to the site and, also, your specific information.
4. Once you open the site, you will have access to multiple resources on retiring, health summaries, health plans, pre-65, post-65, etc. Specifically, if you open the **Retirement Planning Guide** (on left hand side of page, under **Resources**) and go to page 23, you will find a list of key phone numbers and websites for your use.

### B. Medtronic Foundation –Volunteer and Giving Site

Note: As a retiree, you will need a new login to access MDT Foundation Resources. Your employee login will no longer work after you retire. To do this, you must go to:

<https://medtronic.yourcause.com/auth/basic>

Once you login, you will have access to the volunteer grant and charitable matching site which is managed by YourCause for the MDT Foundation.

- C. You also can gain access to these and other sites by using the **VSP website: [mdtretirees.org](https://mdtretirees.org)** and clicking on **Benefits**

End