



Carole Edwards was born in Staten Island, N.Y. in July of 1938 to parents who were children of immigrants living on the lower East side of Manhattan. How fortunate Carole and her two brothers were to be brought up with the wonderful values of frugality, generosity of spirit, helpfulness and always being quoted the Golden Rule: do unto others as you wish to be done unto you. Learning not so much by preaching but by the example of her parents, Carole, though a very shy child (hard for people who know her now, to understand that) would always compliment and thank anyone who helped her or did something nice. She learned to be a letter writer expressing these positive thoughts but also letting people know if she thought a situation could be handled in a better way. Try to be part of the solution, not the problem, was one of her dad's philosophies.

Carole, after teaching high school in her alma mater and teaching piano in her own studio for about 30 years, moved to Smith Mountain Lake. Driving the speed boat for her brother's slalom water skiing, captaining the pontoon, and having fun on the Sea-Doo with their multitude of guests, Carole and her friend Jackie toured the country, visiting 24 retirement communities before deciding on The Glebe in 2000 (5 years before The Glebe opened.) The CCRC contract was a "No-Brainer" and what a glorious day it was when their cottage was ready for Carole, Jackie, their Papillon dogs, and a cat to move in.

Immediately the dogs and cat became regular visitors in assisted living and healthcare as they were pet therapy animals who traveled in a baby stroller to do their visiting. Not to be outdone by the animals, Carole became a charter member of the Executive Committee of the Residents' Council (from which she recently retired, affording newer residents the opportunity to serve.) As a big fundraiser, (something she said she could never do) Carole encouraged Glebians to contrib-

ute toward the purchase of the grand piano, for the saltwater pool, and to purchase memorial bricks for the Gazebo garden which carried out the plans and design of a fellow resident, Don Johnson.

During the challenging period of the bankruptcy, Carole was on the committee to raise resident funds to hire a lawyer, specifically to represent the interests of the residents. And how successful that was! You name the committee and Carole served on it or led it at one time or another. Still very much involved, Carole currently is serving as facilitator of the Prayer Group, (15 years now) working for many years on the golf tournament, Spiritual Life Committee, Resident Advisory Committee, memorials, memoirs, sponsor of the Short Game Golf Tournament, leading sing-along in assisted living (going on 15 years now) and now that COVID-19 precautions have been eased, she once again has restarted visiting in the licensed areas. Water aerobics classes three times a week, weekly "brain" classes, lectures, various entertainment activities make days, weeks and months go by much too fast. Keeping in touch with all independent living residents who move on to different levels of care is very important to Carole as she feels that no one should ever feel forgotten, abandoned or left out. Suggesting visits, phone calls, letters, brief notes, providing companionship and providing updates to fellow residents is very important to her.

A parishioner of the local Roman Catholic Church in which Carole is a lector, she arranges a Catholic Mass to be celebrated several times a year at the Glebe to which all denominations are invited. In this wonderful ecumenical community, spiritual activities are beautifully represented.

"Carole Edwards and Friends," the longest running piano ensemble group in the country, will be presenting its 49th consecutive annual week of concerts next April. It will mark the 17th year of performances at The Glebe which have grown from one concert to five performances. Started in N.Y. in 1974, this group helps raise money for local charities as it selects a different group each year to which attendees voluntarily contribute. There never has been an admission charge, as these performances have always been a gift to whatever community in which Carole resides.

Carole is a high-spirited influencer to all she meets, through her charitable efforts, through her cheerful presence and committed participation in the community, and through the ever-present smile on her face as she buzzes around the Glebe on her little red scooter. May her influence inspire others to offer their own talents to the Glebe community.