

Kevin, Kathy Flynn of K. Flynn Insurance, Awarded for Community Service: *Muscular Dystrophy Association* to receive \$2,500 through the Flynn's effort

Alexandria, VA.

Trusted Choice has awarded the inaugural "Dan Fulwider Award for Community Involvement" to Kevin and Kathy Flynn of K. Flynn Insurance Agency of Troy. The award recognizes Trusted Choice member agents for going above and beyond in volunteering and serving causes close to their heart, in honor of the late Dan Fulwider, who recently lost his valiant fight with cancer.

While farming and starting a family the Flynn's began working in insurance in 1982. They opened their independent insurance office three years later.

The couple has immersed themselves into the community and volunteers at the Sacred Heart School, Lincoln County R-III School district, St Alphonsus Church, youth softball and baseball programs, Troy Pool and other clubs and governing boards.

"We're kind of crazy, I think," said Kathy of their service work. "I don't sit still and neither can Kevin."

In addition, K. Flynn Insurance also hosts an annual golf tournament for its clients where they sell off mulligans to benefit the MDA, the agency closest to their hearts.

Kevin and Kathy lost three sons to a type of Muscular Dystrophy called Werdnig-Hoffman, which makes this battle a personal one. Kolby, Karey, and Korey, like many victims of Werdnig-Hoffman, died before reaching the age of 6 months. The condition causes an infant's body to fail to produce a protein involved in muscle growth. Currently there is no way to induce synthesis of the missing protein or to introduce the protein to the body, which ultimately makes swallowing, eating and breathing for the child progressively more difficult.

"The first time we lost (a child) they called it SIDS," Kathy remembers. "He was only six weeks old. When we had our second child, I knew something wasn't right." That is when she and Kevin learned that they were both carriers of Werdnig-Hoffmann.

With the dear memory of their sons and the gratitude for their three healthy children, Kelly, Kasey, and Kelsey, in their hearts; they have stayed committed members of the MDA and taught their children to turn their losses into blessings for others.

Kelly is now married with one son and works as a school teacher in the Kansas City area. She volunteers her time as the sponsor for the local DECA organization and is supporting the Flynn's mission to help find a cure for MDA through an annual 5K Run/Walk. The fifth annual event will be held in April of 2010 with all proceeds donated to MDA.

Kasey is currently a kindergarten school teacher in the Lincoln County RIII School District and is planning her first annual 5K Run/Walk in Troy to benefit MDA. The kickoff event will be held in April of 2010.

Kelsey is a freshman at Mizzou and is planning a future in the insurance business which will carry the K. of K. Flynn Insurance Agency into another generation of insurance professionals.

The Flynn's tireless dedication to their community and MDA was officially recognized when they became recipients of the inaugural "Dan Fulwider Award by Trusted Choice".

“Dan Fulwider was the Government Affairs Coordinator and membership Liaison for the Independent Insurance Agents of Iowa, and a huge supporter of Trusted Choice,” said Brett Nilsson, Big “I” chairman. “Dan was a warm and caring young man, whose dedication to his community and the causes he believed in inspired all who knew him. Dan’s recent passing is mourned by all who knew him and the Big “I” family.”

In addition to receiving the award Kevin and Kathy Flynn also received \$2,500 contribution for the charity of their choice and were recognized at the 2009 Big “I” legislative Conference & Convention. Kevin was present to accept the award and chose the MDA as the recipient of the \$2500 prize.

Robert Rusbult, Big “I” president and CEO had this to say about the Flynn’s, “The Flynn’s started K. Flynn Insurance in 1982 and as their family and agency grew, they felt it was important to give back to the community that supported their business and their family. They have never been too busy to help out with local organizations, schools, and families. The Flynn’s are truly inspirational role models to others.”

“I couldn’t believe it,” said Kevin. “I don’t do stuff for notoriety. I do (it) because I like helping.”

“It’s not about getting the pat on the back,” said Kathy. “It is about knowing that you’ve done something; that feels good.”

Kevin and Kathy are honored to be chosen for the “Dan Fulwider Award for Community Involvement” and will continue the legacy of a life dedicated to “helping people.”