

**Prayer Service**  
**Patricia Clare Sullivan**  
**February 13, 2018**  
**Mercy Medical Center**  
**Bishop Richard Pates**

We come today to pay tribute to Patricia Clare Sullivan, a wonderful woman who had a significant impact not only in the immediate world of Mercy Medical Center, but also in the broader context of our diocesan and civic communities.

By character, she was an expansive individual who could embrace an ever broader community beyond her immediate charge.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick noted that she had capacity conveyed in a popular saying to “Take care of hearts while taking care of business.” By reputation she was a hard core administrator/CEO but also a woman of deep compassion especially for the poor and underprivileged. She wanted everyone to have the benefit of quality healthcare.

This compassion was especially evidenced in her founding of the House of Mercy, an outreach project for women and their children seeking stability and support. This institution stands as a reminder of the drive of Patricia. House of Mercy to this day provides essential services that are transformative of lives.

Patricia was highly respected in the civic community for her leadership and valuable insights. She enjoyed a great sense of humor along with the ability to contribute significantly to a wide variety of projects through her guidance and involvement. For 20 some years she was a positive force for good in the Des Moines area.

Her business aptitude was highlighted by her being a member of the Board of Directors of Casey’s General Stores and Catholic Health Association. She was indeed a “renaissance” woman. Our local community was blessed by her enduring relationship with leadership.

I also want to recognize her long term affiliation with the Sisters of Mercy. Being a member of this community brought her to Des Moines and was the inspiration for her dedicated outreach. Certainly, Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy came through in all that Patricia did and provided the foundation for her vision of a city abounding in mercy and kindness.

We thank the Sisters of Mercy for their support and friendship to Patricia over the years. She embodied your remarkable charism enriching all associated with her.

Our remembrance of Patricia is one of gratitude for a highly gifted woman who shared her personality so generously with Mercy Medical Center and the broader community of Des Moines. We are a more compassionate and caring people because of her. Prayers of appreciation are directed to a benevolent God who sends leaders to us to build his kingdom. We pray for Patricia. May she enjoy the fullness of life with the Risen Savior forever.