

# Al Stigler: A Hero's Legacy

New Berlin Lion Al Stigler's life was truly remarkable: "A man who, if he doesn't go through the Pearly Gates, we're all doomed," according to Club President Len Mueller. He loved kids and they loved him. His legacy included a creative planned gifting approach to fund a Lifetime Camper Scholarship via the WLF Lions Pride Endowment Fund Campaign.

Drafted on his first wedding anniversary, then, just weeks after reaching Vietnam, Al was shot in the head in a rice paddy and taken for dead. He spent six weeks in a coma and a year of hospitalization, only to be divorced by his new wife because "he was not the man she married." While facing life with debilitating paralysis and blindness on his left side, Al lacked bitterness and believed



he was left a better person in his second life.

His passion for charitable giving was served well as a Lion, a dedicated school volunteer, coach and sponsor of community athletic teams. He was the leader of Lions' service day at the VA Medical Center along with many other selfless examples of civic spirit. Al was recognized as a

Community Hero by the National Sporting Goods Association (he donated the \$18,000 award to community causes). The City of New Berlin named a street—Al Stigler Parkway—after him.

Al's donation to the Lions Pride Endowment Fund endowed a Lions camper in perpetuity. The gift he provided was as creative as his community service; clearly he was as thoughtful in his end of life planning as he was at giving of himself during his lifetime. His total gift of \$15,912.03 combined three different planned giving approaches. The WLF Lions Pride Endowment Fund was designated as one of the beneficiaries of a life insurance policy, a percentage of an annuity, as well as an outright bequest. For information on Planned Giving visit [www.lionspride.org](http://www.lionspride.org)