

Lyngblomsten Mourns Loss of Former CEO Wally Hauge

ST. PAUL, Minn. (July 9, 2020) — The Lyngblomsten community is mourning the death of beloved former president Wallace (Wally) Hauge who passed away on July 7.

Wallace (“Wally”) Hauge devoted 15 years of leadership to Lyngblomsten. Beginning in 1977 as an Assistant Administrator to Pastor Reiff, Mr. Hauge was soon named Administrator of the Care Center. When Pastor Reiff retired in 1980, he assumed the position of Executive Director (President/CEO).

During his years at Lyngblomsten, Mr. Hauge set an example for dedicated leadership. The Care Center adapted to a new payment system and computerized medical and financial records in the early 1980s. While many nursing homes were merging during this time, Mr. Hauge was proud that Lyngblomsten remained independent. He was equally proud of the creation of the Community Relations Department which strengthened the partnerships with member congregations. Under his guidance, the Lyngblomsten Foundation was established in 1985 to raise philanthropic dollars to further the cause of Lyngblomsten. The Newman-Benson Chapel and the Husby Dining Rooms were added to the campus in 1987. Numerous other physical improvements were made to the buildings and grounds, including the remodeling of the North Building, which added much needed floor space and air conditioning to resident rooms in the care center. The planning and approvals for The Heritage at Lyngblomsten (apartments) were prepared while Mr. Hauge was President/CEO. He established the Community Senior Center and Health Assessment & Education Program—forerunners to today’s community services known as 2nd Half with Lyngblomsten. The mission statement for Lyngblomsten was developed under Mr. Hauge’s guidance. He retired from Lyngblomsten on December 31, 1992, and remained connected with the organization. To this day, people remark about his kindness and his interest in others.



Hauge served as President & CEO of Lyngblomsten from 1980 to 1992.

In 2001, Mr. Hauge received the inaugural Anna Quale Fergstad Award for Distinguished Service—named after Lyngblomsten’s first president. At that time, it was said he displayed many of the same qualities ascribed to Mrs. Fergstad: “guiding light,” “driving force,” and “dedicated leadership.”

In 2005–2006 he co-chaired the Lyngblomsten Centennial Celebration Committee with his wife, Margit.

Reflecting on Mr. Hauge’s contributions to Lyngblomsten, current President & CEO Jeff Heinecke shared, “Wally was the epitome of a strong and impactful leader. He carried a respected voice in the senior care industry. Those who knew him during his time as CEO describe Wally as incredibly kind and caring. They are also quick to say that he was determined to make a difference. Wally was special to the Lyngblomsten community and will be deeply missed.”

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Incorporated in 1906, Lyngblomsten is a Christian nonprofit organization enhancing the quality of life for older adults of all faiths and cultures through its healthcare and housing facilities and its community-based outreach programs for seniors living independently. Connect with Lyngblomsten at www.lyngblomsten.org or through its [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.