



**37th Annual Challenger Event
Honoring Don & Joan Prachthausen
Monday, September 28, 2020**



Joan Prachthausen, Larry Haskin, Don Prachthausen
and Holly Haskin at our 2019 Challenger Event.

Life Navigators is delighted to welcome Don & Joan Prachthausen as our 37th Annual Challenger Honorees. Don & Joan are great friends of Life Navigators, and we are so pleased to recognize them for their leadership and dedication to our community.

Committed to philanthropy and volunteerism, Don & Joan support many charitable causes in addition to Life Navigators. Don & Joan have been long time supporters of Gethsemane United Methodist Church, The Milwaukee Art Museum, Evans Scholars, Lake Country Young Life and the Salvation Army. They are also lifetime members of the University of Wisconsin Alumni Association and Bascom Hill Society.

Don & Joan's story began in the fall of 1969 as freshmen at UW Madison. Set up on a blind date by their roommates, they dated throughout college and married the summer after graduation. A year later, Don started classes at Marquette Law School. Married 47 years this summer, they are proud parents of daughters, Tracy Hoeg, who is a physical medicine physician and Emily Allen, who is a neuroscience researcher. They are also delighted to be grandparents of four wonderful grandchildren.

Don & Joan serve in leadership roles for numerous charitable community causes. Joan has enjoyed educating children and adults as a volunteer docent at the Milwaukee Art Museum since 2004. As longtime members of Gethsemane United Methodist Church, Don has been the Administrative Board Chairman for over two decades, and Joan has served on various committees and been a member of the chancel choir for thirty years.

Don is the senior partner at the law firm of Murphy & Prachthausen, where he has worked since 1980. For much of his career, Don has supported the Wisconsin Association for Justice, of which he is a past president. He is also a past president of The American Board of Trial Advocates-Wisconsin Chapter and an invitation-only member of The American College of Trial Lawyers. He has twice received the honor of *Lawyer of the Year* from Best Lawyers in America. He also received the honor of *Lawyer of the Year* from the Wisconsin Association for Justice.

In their free time, Don is an avid golfer and Joan enjoys painting and traveling. Don & Joan believe that every day is a learning experience that can make us better, more compassionate people. For Joan, family and volunteering have been most important. For Don, whose career choice was inspired by the fictional character, Atticus Finch, it has been the search for justice in the courtroom. Their devotion to family and giving back inspire each of us to make our community a better place for all.

The Challenger Event Impact. This year's event will secure bright futures for the 4,800 individuals with disabilities that we serve each year. Years ago, our Challenger Event committee chair, Larry Haskin, introduced Don & Joan to Life Navigators' mission. As a result, Murphy & Prachthausen was pleased to recognize Life Navigators in a marketing campaign video showcasing the positive impact that individuals with disabilities have when they are active and connected. These opportunities to live, work and volunteer mean so much to the individuals we serve. Together, we can meet this growing need for disability services and allow kids and adults to be safe, happy and healthy in our community.