

Report of the Roses for the Living

UCT President Phelan, officers, delegates and distinguished guests, it is my honor and privilege to present on behalf of the Ohio delegation the Roses for the Living presentation. Every fraternal organization has revered traditions, and the Roses for the Living program is certainly one of the most cherished in our Order.

First presented by Brother Edward McCormick of Marietta Council 32 at the Ohio Grand convention in 1931 and adopted by the Supreme body in 1937, Roses for the Living grew from Brother McCormick's desire to recognize those within the Order with a rose in recognition of their fraternalism while they could enjoy them while on earth. His spirit of fraternalism and brotherhood carry on today.

Tonight we honor 24 brothers and sisters with the presentation of one of God's most fragrant and delicate flowers – a rose.

And passed down through the generations from Brother McCormick is also to remember if you do not receive a rose, you are in on the giving. I would like to read from Brother McCormick's favorite poem:

One Little Rose

I would rather have one little rose
From the garden of a friend
Than to have the choicest flowers
When my stay on Earth must end.

I would rather have a pleasant word
In kindness said to me,
Than flattery when my heart is still
And this life has ceased to be.

I would rather have a loving smile
From friends I know are true
Than tears shed around my casket
When I bid this world adieu.

Bring me all the flowers today,
Whether pink, or white or red;
I'd rather have one blossom now
Than a truckload when I'm dead.

Please stand or raise your hand as your name is called so that the runners may find you.

My Brothers and Sisters, it has been both an honor and pleasure to serve on this committee, and we thank you President Phelan for the opportunity to serve.

Brian Ward, Chairperson
Edna Puthoff
Connie Ward
Phyllis Burt

David Van Order
David Knapp

Roses for the Living recipients:

Chris and Corey Phelan
Mary and Terry Applegate
J. Welsey Cosman
Robert Proesch
Barbara Washburn
Jacqueline MacLeod
Shirley Giff
Kate Slama
Jerry Stewart
Linda McKay
Cheryl Vreeland
Sue Hedglin
Tracey Evans
Marilyn Baumgartner
Sarah Cooper
Angela Goff
Travis Holcomb
Dianne Boyd
Richard Rice
Glenn Flint
Gary Pauli
Thomas (Butch) Liebaert
Bill Murphy
Sandy Shafer