Weldon Weekley was one of a kind. Larger than life. A twinkle in his eye that betrayed the witty quip he was about to playfully unleash. A deep love for his wife, Rosalie, so strong that when he looked at her, you would swear he was 25 years old, rather than 92. And, an unshakable faith, hope and joy that continues to inspire and guide. Weldon has kept his promise to be an 'angel on our shoulders', having joined our cloud of witnesses in 2010.

Weldon had an abiding love for Guatemala having traveled there many times, gathering traditional weavings wherever he went. And, he had a love for Faith In Practice, because we reached out to his treasured Guatemala. So, naturally, he was one of the very first Faith In Practice supporters I met when I arrived in Houston in 2007. Regularly, I would stop by the house to visit Weldon and Rosalie and they would have cheese, crackers and wine waiting for me. There they would regale me with stories of their long and colorful life together. I cherish those times of pure hospitality and grace.

Rev. Linda McCarty and Weldon Weekley in 2009

What I remember most about Weldon, though, was his enthusiastic love of life and all the possibilities it held. Particularly, he firmly believed that he had a role to play in God’s greater plan. This understanding was interwoven into Weldon’s very being, and he met the challenge with joy, purpose and energy. At the end of his life, Weldon continued to speak about what God was asking of him, how he could be a better steward of this life with which God had entrusted him.

Learn more about the
Shortly after my arrival to Houston, Weldon and Rosalie gave a significant gift to renovate three operating rooms at Hospital Hilario Galindo in Western Guatemala. And, after he died, they continued to give through a donation from the estate to help us with the major renovation and expansion of the Hilario Galindo Hospital, the groundbreaking of which is taking place this November.

When thinking about the Gala this year, we came across the following in a song entitled "Here I Am":

"All of my life, I make an offering . . . . Somehow my story is a part of Your plan."

When I heard those words, I immediately thought of Weldon, his life an offering, his purpose always to live his life in the context of God’s greater plan. Weldon and Rosalie’s legacy continues through their children and grandchildren - - a commitment to service, their stories, God’s plan. Therefore, it is with deep gratitude and humility that we have the privilege of honoring Weldon and Rosalie and their Family at the 2103 Gala.

And, it is with deep gratitude and humility that we continue to look to the ‘angel on our shoulder’ to encourage and guide us as we seek to lead Faith In Practice. May Faith In Practice always be an offering. Faith In Practice's story, a part of God’s wondrous plan.

Rev. Linda L. McCarty

Proceeds from the upcoming gala will go toward the expansion of Hilario Galindo Hospital, the cornerstone of which is the Rosalie and Weldon Weekley donation.

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