

PAUL GARTHE:  
THIS MAN COULD SELL A REFRIGERATOR  
TO AN ESKIMO.....

A long time resident of the Grand Traverse Area, Paul Garthe has an interest in Munson Medical Center spanning many years. A member of the corporation since 1952, he became a member of the Board of Trustees in 1958.

His philosophy about the hospital closely parallels that about his business, from which he has now retired. "Good people helped to make the business what it is, just as good people have made Munson the superior hospital that it is," said Mr. Garthe.

For many years Paul Garthe owned and operated Paul Garthe, Incorporated, an appliance, refrigeration and restaurant supply business. Retirement still finds him active in the corporation as a consultant. He is called upon, from time to time, to assist with various projects requiring the many years of experience he has as an expert on refrigeration, air conditioning and commercial and residential kitchen design.

Much of the business centered around supplying major commercial and institutional establishments with the proper kitchen equipment for preparation and serving of food. Northwestern Michigan College, the Park Place, Munson Medical Center and Osteopathic Hospital were all helped in setting up their kitchens by Mr. Garthe's firm. Before business facilities were moved to the West Bay Shopping Center, they were located on East Front Street where the Bobbin Shop is now situated.

In spite of the demands made upon Mr. Garthe as a businessman, he still found time to devote to the National Cherry Festival serving as Chairman for several years after World War II. Along with other citizens from the area, he was instrumental in rekindling interest in the Festival.

A builder and carpenter in his own right, Mr. Garthe has enjoyed swinging a hammer and pounding nails both in his home and on projects of a larger scale. He installed the cabinets in his first home on West Bay and also built a boat deck, ramp and a hoist; projects he is looking forward to in his new home at Lee Point near Sutton's Bay.

As Paul Garthe puts it, "Over the years, the most intriguing civic work I've had has been in connection with Munson. It is extremely interesting and very satisfying. Munson is the one business I know of that is trying to put itself out of business, just by doing such a good job."

"With no new beds, I suppose this last phase of construction appeared to be unglamorous, but the new facilities and remodeling have made great strides forward for our community. We will continue to expand as THE medical center of the north and will keep adding to meet the demands and needs of the area. The very finest compliment that can be paid to this hospital is that Munson would not have the fine reputation it does without the fine people it has working within."

"Excellent relationships with the Board Members have been rewarding too." Mr. Garthe continued. "The Board really has a good feeling towards the hospital and the community. They have a good sense of humor, and yet they are very serious about their work."

"I'm also sure that our geographical location is at least partially responsible for the number of excellent physicians on Munson's staff. Our doctors are the very best we could ask for and represent a wide range of specialties. Munson has it all: good

PAUL GARTHE - Continued.....

physical facilities, the most modern equipment, but more importantly...the best people, employes of the hospital, administrators, board members and doctors."

Asked if he had ever been a patient at Munson and how he felt about his stay, Mr. Garthe replied; "Yes, I've been a patient at Munson, and it was the best vacation I've ever had."

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