

John Milner, Sr.

In Honor of his Grandson, Reid

John Milner, Sr., on the recommendation of his son, John Milner, Jr., decided to leave part of his charitable remainder trust to our House because of the tremendous service it had provided to his son's family.

John, Jr.'s son, Reid, spent nearly the entire first year of his life in a San Jose, California hospital. Complications during pregnancy and a premature birth required heroic measures to keep Reid alive. Extensive time on a ventilator in the pediatric ICU resulted in Reid's airway shutting down. "We were told," says his mother Sherri, "that he might never walk, talk, or be able to eat or even develop properly." Doctors at Cincinnati Children's spent the next six years successfully reconstructing his airway. Reid, now in his teens, continues to return to Cincinnati with his family for periodic consultations with their medical team.

Being able to stay at the House has made a world of difference. Sherri insists, "Without Ronald McDonald House it would have been so much more difficult." The support received, the home-cooked meals and comfortable room "make it much more tolerable when you're going through an ordeal like this," she says. "Without Ronald McDonald House, we wouldn't have been able to meet so many people going through the same thing," says Sherri. She also recalls that living at the House made it possible for her own mother to visit and support the family. "My mom came to the House almost as much as we did," Sherri says. "She spent months on end helping us."

Sherri and John, Jr. have not only experienced the need Ronald McDonald House fills during such trying times, but also want to ensure that an ever-expanding number of families can count on this same support. According to John, Jr., "Ronald McDonald House opens the door for families who otherwise may not get the specialized treatment their children need."

So, when given the opportunity to help select the beneficiaries of his father's charitable remainder trust, John, Jr., naturally suggested Cincinnati's Ronald McDonald House. As John would put it:

"What Ronald McDonald House does for families makes them such a deserving organization."

We are indebted to the Milner family and to all our generous planned giving donors for their enduring commitment to the future of our House and our guest families.