

Defining Courage

A longtime church member, widely recognized for a life of love and service, passed away.

At the funeral, his children stood up one by one to tell stories about their father, and soon noticed a recurring theme: his single most outstanding trait was his willingness to serve others, no matter what the need.



He was one of those people who was always ready to lend a hand – to run an errand, to do odd jobs, or to give someone a ride home. One of his daughters mentioned how, everywhere he went, he kept a toolbox and a pair of coveralls in the trunk of his car, “just in case somebody needed something fixed.”

What a lovely way to recall one’s life upon this earth!

More often than not, when we hear the word *courage*, we think of heroic acts in times of crisis. In our everyday lives, we shouldn’t overlook the courageousness of simply being there. Lives change when we faithfully provide for our families, care for the elderly, or lend an ear to a troubled friend. Persistence in making this world a better place to live – for us and for others – is definitely a form of courage.

Albert Schweitzer, the great Christian missionary, doctor and theologian, was once asked in an interview to name the greatest living person. He immediately replied, “The greatest person in the world is some unknown individual who at this very moment has gone in love to help another.”

For those of us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, every day brings opportunity to do exactly what Schweitzer describes.

As you go about your work today, remember that you can be someone else’s hero.

Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers
(3 John 1:5).

– Beecher Hunter