

Our Family Reunion

There's a family reunion going on in Cleveland, Tenn.! It's the annual management meeting of Life Care Centers of America.

And like any family reunion, there are hugs, handshakes, memories being recalled, showing pictures of children and grandchildren, and even a few tall tales being told.

Interspersed throughout are education sessions, entertaining and inspiring keynote speakers, and some musical delights featuring Life Care's own Sister Act and a taste of Leiper's Fork – country music at its purest – with the Homer Dever Band.

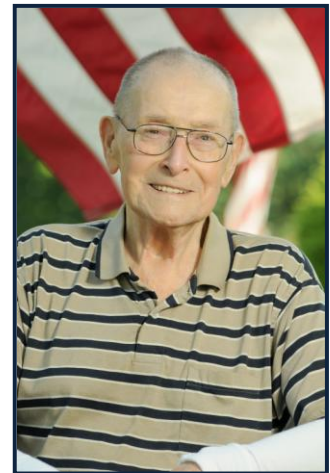
Associates arrived on Saturday by airplane and automobile. Sunday morning's first get-together started with a breakfast, music and inspiration by the nationally renowned Kingsmen quartet, including a tribute to the late Anthony Burger, piano artist extraordinaire, who was a native of Cleveland and performed first with The Kingsmen and later was a featured musician on the Gaither Homecoming series. Sunday afternoon's activities were shopping trips to Hamilton Place Mall and Blue Ridge, a quaint town high in the mountains of North Georgia, ZIPstream Aerial Adventures, a visit to Rock City and golf.

Today's patriotic opening ceremony spotlighted the new special edition of the Life Care LEADER magazine, just released, focusing on America's "greatest generation," World War II veterans in Life Care facilities. A surprise guest was Luther Craig, 90, a highly decorated veteran now living in The Woodlands in Muncie, Ind., and one of the residents portrayed in the LEADER. He got a rousing standing ovation from the audience, expressing their appreciation for his love of country and the service he rendered.

Keynote speakers throughout the week are Ken Davis, today; Dr. James Marcum, Tuesday; and Dr. Dennis Swanberg, Wednesday.

This morning, Chris Mitchell, chief operating officer, introduced each of the division vice presidents, with a discussion on operational initiatives to make our company stronger. Tuesday morning's highlight is a celebration of the corporation's 35th anniversary.

Always an exciting and emotional time is the awards ceremony, scheduled for this evening, during which the company will recognize performance excellence for associates and appreciation for volunteers. Wednesday morning, a segment, *Looking Back, Looking Ahead*, will include presentations by Mitchell, myself and Chairman Forrest Preston. The closing ceremony at lunchtime will officially conclude the meeting.



The Woodlands resident Luther Craig is featured in the new edition of LEADER magazine.

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There's no better place to be than when the Life Care family comes together to enjoy the fellowship and celebrate the shared mission.

– Beecher Hunter

