

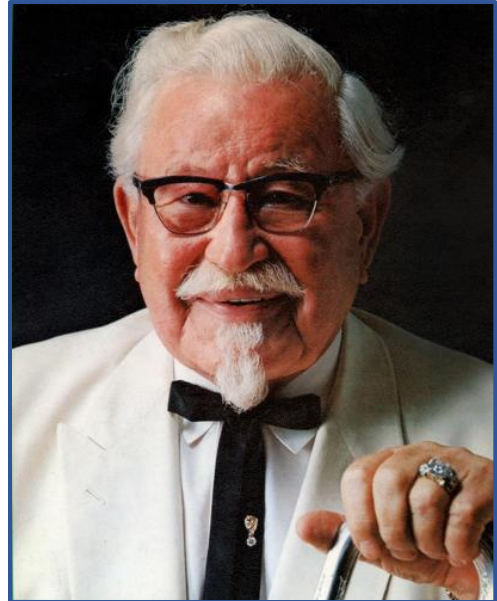
The Charm of Col. Sanders

The late Col. Harland David Sanders was a businessman best known for founding the fast-food chicken restaurant chain Kentucky Fried Chicken (now called KFC). He later served as the company's brand ambassador and symbol.

Sanders held a number of jobs in early life, such as steam engine stoker, insurance salesman and filling-station operator. He began selling fried chicken from his roadside restaurant in North Corbin, Kentucky, during the Great Depression. Sanders recognized the potential of the restaurant franchising concept, and the first Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise opened in Utah in 1952.

Helen Dewar wrote an interesting story in *Reader's Digest* about Sanders' interaction with, and impact on, people.

On a Western Airlines flight to San Francisco, Sanders, then 89, had made himself agreeable to staff and fellow passengers, then dropped his chin to his narrow black tie and closed his eyes.



Somewhere in the back of the plane, a child had been shrieking for some time. One stewardess told another helplessly, "I've tried candy, books and games, but nothing seems to make any difference."

"I've got to speak to that child," said the colonel. He rose to his feet and, with the aid of his cane, made his way back. The staff watched and shrugged, as if to say, "What can he do?"

When Sanders came back, not long afterward, his charm had produced a minor miracle. There was only the sound of chatter, newspapers and china.

The stewardess came up to him and said, "Thank you for helping us, Colonel!"

"I didn't do it for you," he replied. "I did it for the child."

And he closed his eyes again and settled down.

What Col. Sanders did for the child illustrates, in a real sense, what we in Life Care and Century Park do for seniors.

(more)

Our residents come to us with various trying circumstances – some physical, some emotional, some spiritual. Whether spoken verbally or otherwise, they are crying out for help.

What we bring to bear are hope, resources, professional gifts, compassion and assurance to achieve positive outcomes for those we serve.

We do it for them.

But it also produces in us a sense of satisfaction, an accomplishment of a divine purpose in the mission to which we are called.

The Apostle Paul is speaking: *“I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’”* (Acts 20:35 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter