

Chesed HONOREE

Patty Marks

Patrice "Patty" Greener Marks was born in Memphis, the second daughter of Sue and Eugene Greener, Jr. Raised at Temple Israel, then a Classical Reform congregation, Patty has always cherished her identity as a Southern Jew.

A Vanderbilt graduate, she met her husband, Jimmy, on a blind date arranged by their parents. Married in 1980, they've called Nashville home for most of their lives.

Patty's deep love for her Jewish community is reflected in decades of service, especially at The Temple, Congregation Ohabi Shalom which she jokes is her Cheers, the only place that she wants for people to know her name. She has held leadership roles including Board President (2008-2010), co-chair of the Cantor search and Leadership Temple, and helped found the Women's Retreat. Her most treasured contribution is leading Women's Torah Study for over 23 years, fostering a community that is curious, smart, kind and supportive of one another. Thursday at 10:30 in the library is truly sacred time.

Beyond The Temple, Patty has been actively involved in the broader Jewish community, serving as Treasurer of NCJW, chairing the Playschool committee and the Main Event at the JCC.

Her unwavering dedication to Jewish Family Service (JFS) is especially meaningful. She has served on the board, co-chaired the Chesed Dinner, co-hosted fundraisers for Adoption Services, and eagerly supports initiatives from kosher food boxes to the Chanukah Gift Drive. She and Jimmy are proud Life & Legacy donors. JFS is the only organization for which she is happy to solicit funds for the Annual Giving campaign.

Patty & Jimmy cherish their family: son Albert & Rabbi Rachel Marks, grandchildren George & Dena, and son Michael Marks, all of whom live in Chicago.

In her free time, Patty enjoys walking, needlepoint, playing bridge, mahjonnig, and canasta. She is an avid reader, participating in Tri Arts, Classics Book Club and Jewish Book Club, and a proud member of G1, an interfaith group tackling issues of faith, religious life and antisemitism.

For Patty, JFS embodies the Jewish values that guide her life, making the Chesed Award the greatest honor she could receive.