

# Marty Shannon

## Dedicated Volunteer for 34 Years

*Marty shares his recollections of 34 years of delivering Meals on Wheels to clients in the metro KC. We will miss him, as we thank him for his dedication.*



*Marty delivers a client's lunch to her caretaker.*

“The meals at that time were dispersed from a large brick building (a former school possibly) in Westport that was also the home of the KC ballet. Through the years we distributed from many locations (primarily churches). At that time and for many years our director was Jim Doebele, a really great gentleman. He just recently (within the past 8-10 years ago) moved on to another challenge.

I have always looked forward to my delivery day. The people I have met have been both delightful and at times difficult. The greatest challenge I have had over the years has been to know when to shut my face and move onto the next client before their meal becomes cold.

This has always been true of the client I have had for the longest period of time (approx. 10 years). Her name is Charlotte and we have become very good friends. Because it is very, very difficult for her to get out of her apartment, I would often pick up items for her that she needs.

Another very long term client and friend was Ken. He would always offer a small cocktail when I came by and we would talk. He made the strangest request of me which I was more than happy to do. He asked me to find a Boston Terrier for him when his ancient dog died. I found one and he just loved that dog.

The staff and fellow volunteers have always been very pleasant and enjoyable to be around. The sponsored gatherings are always a class act which I look forward to attending. The snacks, wine, and entertainment are always "look forward to" events. I strongly recommend this entire volunteer experience to anyone. I am moving on at this time due to some health issues and massive hospital bills. I will always look back on these years fondly and hope I am still invited to the parties”

*Thanks, Marty, for your many years of caring!*