

WHITEFISH
BAY
LIVING

OCT 2024



**ENJOYING THEIR LIVES
AT THE MILWAUKEE CATHOLIC HOME
WITH WHITEFISH BAY IN THEIR HEARTS**

**Jean Jermain,
Paul Connolly and
Mary Hoffmann**

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Enjoying Their Lives at the Milwaukee Catholic Home

WITH WHITEFISH BAY IN THEIR HEARTS



Mary Hoffmann, Paul Connolly and Jean Jermain

THIS MONTH we're featuring three current residents of the Milwaukee Catholic Home who previously resided in Whitefish Bay.

Jean Jermain, Mary Hoffmann and Paul Connolly spent many years enjoying their busy lives in Whitefish Bay and have shared their life memories of raising their children and living many years of married life in a place they'll always call home.



Paul Connolly

At age 92, Paul was previously married to his wife Gretchen who passed away in 2021. The two raised three children: Michael (69), Patrick (66) and Elizabeth (57).

"Gretchen and I met at Marquette University and we enjoyed a 67-year marriage," recalls Paul.

"We lived in the 5300 block of Berkeley for 25 years – and we loved that our kids could walk to school."

After graduating from Marquette University Law School, Paul worked for Robert Baird for 45 years. Gretchen worked as a nurse.

Bill and Gretchen spent 15 years during their retirement years traveling together visiting more than 100 countries – mostly on cruises. "Our best memories were all our times traveling together, especially an adventure traveling to Africa!" exclaims Paul.

In addition, in his free time, Paul enjoyed his boat-building hobby where he ultimately built seven wooden boats while Gretchen loved to sew many quilts.

"In Whitefish Bay, we had an alley in the back of our house, which was convenient for my boatbuilding in the garage," he notes. "I'm sorry my boatbuilding noise woke up so many babies through the years! We enjoyed our neighbors very much during our Whitefish Bay years."

Paul says their family motto is: Do no harm!

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Jean Ferrell Jermain

Jean Ferrell Jermain married her husband Bill Jermain in 1961 – and she lived in Whitefish Bay for more than 50 years! Today she’s 92 years old.

Jean attended college at Loretto Heights in Denver, Colorado, where she earned a degree in education and then taught school in Denver for seven years. Her husband Bill grew up in Shorewood, and he earned a degree in engineering from Marquette University. Bill worked for AT&T during his entire career.

Bill and Jean raised three sons and now have six grandchildren. In their early years, Jim and Bill worked at Whitefish Bay Theater while Pat worked at Winkie’s and loved it, says his mother.

“All our children attended St. Monica Parish,” Jean shares. “Today our son Bill Jermain works as an architect in Chicago, Jim Jermain serves as a vice president at AT&T in Madison and Pat Jermain is the chief financial officer at Plexus Co. in Neenah.”

Through the years, Jean enjoyed singing, painting, skiing, swimming and playing tennis. She also did volunteer work raising spirits by visiting people in the hospital who were ill.

“I also served on the board of the Whitefish Bay Women’s Club and volunteered with Meals on Wheels,” explains Jean. “Bill volunteered his time at St. Monica helping in the chapel operations, assisted with Meals on Wheels and was a member of the Rotary Club.”

Jean and Bill also loved to travel! “We traveled around the world for four years with Bill’s job at AT&T,” says Jean.

“You live in the best village in the state!” she shares with you. “I wish we’d had this magazine when I lived in Whitefish Bay.”

Jean has enjoyed residing at the Milwaukee Catholic Home for the last 14 years. “My mother lived here also,” she concludes. “That’s why Bill and I decided to move here, as my mother had such good care. It’s a nice place to live with good food and great staff – just like a family!”

Her family’s motto – Kind to all.



Mary Hoffmann

Mary Hoffmann grew up in St. Paul with a twin brother and four older siblings.

“I attended the University of Minnesota for two years then went to school at Miller Hospital School of Technology,” explains Mary. “I worked at the hospital until I married my husband Bradley and moved to Milwaukee in 1959.”

Mary met Bradley, a widower from Milwaukee, who already had three children – ages 8, 4, and 2 – in Miami, Florida, at a sheet metal convention as both their fathers owned a sheet metal company. “I was there with my parents and he was with his father,” she explains. “After a year of courtship, we married and had five more children!”

Their eight children’s ages today range from 74 to 57 – Mark, Siri, Kathe, Michael, James, Angela, Christopher and Andrew. In addition, Mary now has 19 grandchildren! Unfortunately, her husband passed away at age 72.

Mary lived in Whitefish Bay for more than 20 years. “I was involved in the Whitefish Bay Woman’s Club and served as president in 1990,” she explains. “We hosted many events that I was involved in, I tutored St. Monica’s CCD classes and helped with mobile meals. My husband Bradley was a village trustee for 23 years, like his father.”

The family owned a home in Door County where they spent their summer months. And Mary also enjoyed cooking and sewing.

“One day, my husband found a large aluminum fishing boat for sale,” Mary explains. “It was just what he wanted with a nice deep hull, safe for fishing with young boys. He did have to remodel parts of it but that was the fun part. He’d take the boys down to his shop on Saturday mornings to remodel it together. They named the boat ‘The ARK.’”

That boat led the way to several others. To hold them all, Bradley built a large storage barn that’s still standing today!

Mary says her year and a half at the Milwaukee Catholic Home has been very pleasant. “The staff has been outstanding, and I’d love to know their secret to remembering names! The food is delicious, and we enjoy interesting programs with a variety of performers. Last week, we had the Florentine Opera, another day a Dixieland band.”

She also enjoys going to Flatley’s for a glass of wine to meet fellow residents. “It’s always a fun place to watch the Packers, Brewers or Warriors,” she con-



Mary Hoffmann's family



Mary Hoffmann's family



Mary Hoffmann's family



Mary Hoffmann's family

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL
Wisconsin JUN 25 1961

Jean Jermain's wedding photo

The wedding of Miss Jean Marie Farrell and William Michael Jermain, jr., was followed by a reception at the Whitefish Bay home of the bride's parents, Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Farrell.

Farrell-Jermain
 William Michael Jermain, jr., and his bride, the former Jean Marie Farrell, left for Jamaica after their wedding reception Saturday. They were married at St. Robert Catholic church, Shorewood.

Parents of the bride are Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Farrell, 5966 N. Lake dr., Whitefish Bay. Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Jermain, sr., 3423 N. Maryland av., are parents of the bridegroom.

who lives in Janesville. Maid of honor was the bride's sister, Kathleen. Dr. Louis Jermain was best man for his brother.
 A reception was held at the Farrell home.
 Mrs. Jermain is a graduate of Loretto Heights college, Denver, Col. A member of the Service club, she was a debutante in 1951. Jermain is an alumnus of Marquette university.

WHITEFISH BAY 1949 VARSITY SQUAD

Jean Jermain, Whitefish Bay Varsity Squad 1949

1st Row—Hartshorn, Joys, Jensen, Wilson, Hickey, Baldus, Drought, Creath
 2nd Row—Siegrist, Zeller, McManus, Abraham, McIntyre, Kassner, Blust, Wegemann
 3rd Row—Barry, Barbee, Wajer, Crowley, Meyer, Lordahl, Ness
 4th Row—Bakke, Johnson, Fassett, Smilanich, Pilarsyk, Koerner, Plater, Tippett
 5th Row—Logeman, Walszak, Grimm, Pepper, Masker, Aaseby, Winsky, Henningfeld
 6th Row—Rieboldt (Coach), Van Gent (Mgr.), Goodrich (Mgr.), Urban (Mgr.), Jankowski (Coach)



Jean Jermain's Klode Park photo from 1949

Klode Park
1947

Trinity Senior Services – Parent Company of Milwaukee Catholic Home

Trinity Senior Services officially rolled out in June of 2024. It builds on the century-long legacy of the Milwaukee Catholic Home. While best known for being the place people go for an outstanding senior living experience, it's much more than apartments for older adults.

Its mission is to connect people to their purpose spans across generations and programs. Trinity's 500 team members fulfill this mission every day in the most amazing ways - from taking exceptional care of residents to managing the 18 acres of sustainable farmland that provides produce for our communities. Forming Trinity Senior Services as a management company allows the organization to expand its reach at a time when the population is expected to need it most - to serve generations to come.



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