

We are happy to name Dr. Roger Krogstad as the 68th inductee in the Marshfield's 150: Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present register. Dr. Krogstad was nominated by Kiwanis Club of Marshfield.

To paraphrase two sayings: A love for children makes society more civil – and loving a pet awakens the human soul. As much as anyone in Marshfield, Dr. Roger Krogstad knows both. He has devoted much of his life to giving positive opportunities to children – and to keep cats, dogs and other small animals healthy so they can give the unconditional love their humans crave.



For 38 years, Krogstad owned Wildwood Animal Hospital & Clinic, fostering growth as its leader and building trust as a veterinarian. He's been active in the Kiwanis Club of Marshfield since the 1990s, expanding its service and outreach to children through his leadership in the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Kiwanis district.

Krogstad moved to Marshfield in 1981, graduating from western Iowa's Harlan High School. He earned his veterinary medicine doctorate from Iowa State in 1980 and began his career at a small animal practice in Milwaukee. A year later he acquired Wildwood Animal Clinic from Dr. John Kolpanen, then located at 2411 S. Maple Ave.

In 1986, Krogstad moved his renamed Wildwood Animal Hospital to 217 W. 14th St., doubling the size of its former building. He again moved the practice to its present location at 210 Airpark Road in the Air Industrial Park. It provided three times its former space with room for future growth.

According to Wildwood's website, Krogstad showed an early commitment to small animal medicine by seeking certification from the American Animal Hospital Association. It has earned repeated AAHA accreditations – one of just a few in Wisconsin to achieve that status. In 2015, the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry honored Wildwood as its Small Business of the Year.

When he retired in 2018, Krogstad sold the business to one of his other doctors, Jerry Bellin. Krogstad again offered his veterinary services in late 2021, performing pre-adoption spaying-and-neutering surgeries for the Humane Society of Portage County in Plover. He also supports the Marshfield Area Pet Shelter and served on a fund-raising committee for MAPS' permanent facility that opened in 2020.

With Kiwanis, he was the Marshfield club president in 2010. He also spent four years as a regional lieutenant governor and was on the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan district's executive

committee. In October 2019, Krogstad began a one-year term as District Governor, providing support to 165 local Kiwanis clubs with more than 4,000 total members. As the COVID pandemic caused societal slowdowns, he encouraged clubs to step up their service, plan for a growing future, and involve both new and former members with the message that “Kids Need Kiwanis.”

Each governor creates a service project to help young people across the district. Krogstad planned to raise \$15,000 to replace worn kitchen equipment at the Easter Seals’ Camp Wawbeek near Wisconsin Dells, which provides camp experiences to disabled children & adults. Thanks to 42 Kiwanis clubs, foundations and individuals, Krogstad’s goal was exceeded with a total of \$16,586.

Naturally, Krogstad had a hand in the Marshfield club’s best-known projects including KEEP (Kiwanis Enormous Equipment Playground) for children each October at the Fairgrounds. He used his district involvement to foster new service opportunities locally. That includes the “Kiwanis Cops ‘N’ Kids” reading program which has its own book library at Wenzel Family Plaza. It opened in late 2021.

Krogstad also encouraged his fellow Marshfield club members to serve children around the world. In 2014, he started the “\$1,000 Eliminate Challenge.” It sought to raise funds for Kiwanis International’s Eliminate Project – saving the lives of babies and their mothers worldwide by seeking to eradicate maternal neonatal tetanus. It took an average of just \$1.80 to save one life, and Marshfield Kiwanians were each asked to donate \$30.

Krogstad is a U.S. Navy veteran, serving as a line supply officer at Pearl Harbor in the 1970s. He also employs a more personal technique for saving lives – giving blood. He estimates that he’s donated 16 total gallons, motivated by a history of blood donations from his parents. His mother was a bloodmobile’s registered nurse.

In addition to his veterinary degree, Krogstad earned bachelor’s degrees in bacteriology and fisheries-and-wildlife biology from Iowa State. He has used that knowledge to serve with Ducks Unlimited, and to make several hunting trips to southern Africa where he hunted down a Cape Buffalo in 2019.

Roger Krogstad often gives good words to acquaintances for their accomplishments. He leads a life of giving, and his Kiwanis Club is proud to express its thanks by nominating him for his well-deserved place in Marshfield’s 150.