

## **Calvin & Suzanne Schmidt**

Evan P. Helfaer Donor Award - 2022  
Nominated by Catholic Memorial  
High School

Cal and Suzy Schmidt are the definitions of servant leaders. Their generosity is substantial and diverse - giving of time, talent, and treasure to many organizations, in various ways.



The couple began volunteering in college and continued throughout their careers and into retirement. Despite challenging careers in demanding fields, both engaged employers in their philanthropic passions through matching gifts, sponsorships, grants, and helping build connections between individuals, corporations and organizations to make an impact. They continued their giving by contributing to faith, healthcare, education, arts, and basic needs organizations in our area.

As enthusiastic, kind, creative leaders, they are willing to try something new and take risks. Both are intelligent, logical, and data-oriented, helping organizations to work smarter and more efficiently. The two have guided organizations through lean management, strategic planning, launching a Capital Campaign, navigating fiscal years, the pandemic, and more when serving on leadership. While they are experts in their field, with clearly aligned passions and projects, they never shy away from a challenge and are boots-on-the-ground, hands-in-the dirt type of volunteers. Their strategic approach, backed by “can do” attitudes and the willingness to try and try again, make them outstanding members of our philanthropic community.