

STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

“Kids should practice autographing baseballs. This is a skill that’s often overlooked in Little League.”

- Tug McGraw

When Jennifer Fuller married Warren Brusstar, Philadelphia Phillies teammate Tug McGraw was part of the package. Tug signed on as “big brother” and the friendship deepened through the years, extending to family members.

When Tug was diagnosed with brain cancer, it was only natural that the Brusstars stepped up to the plate. Jennifer committed to being chief caregiver and advocate, enabling Tug to have an extended quality of life.

“Eighteen years ago I was introduced to Mr. McGraw,” says Jennifer, “and he changed my life forever.” Today, as president and CEO of the Tug McGraw Foundation (TMF), Jennifer offers invaluable support and services for brain tumor survivors ... and what better way to honor Tug’s life.

Package deal

Jennifer was a flight attendant for American Airlines when she met Warren in 1989. She had a layover in San Francisco and he was attending a baseball convention. They were married three months later and celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary this year.

Warren was a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies and, ironically, had been brought up to the big leagues in the 1970s because of an injury to Tug.

Warren and Tug were part of the 1980 Phillies World Series championship team. Tug was like a big brother to Warren—“He had so much love for my husband that he was easy to bring into the family,” says Jennifer.

The friendship connection took in family members, as well. Jennifer grew to love Tug’s entire family. Dotia, Tug’s cousin, became a business mentor and was like a second mom to her.