



American Heart Association.

Heart Ball

Thank You



**2020 HEART BALL
CHAIR**

AHMED ELMOUELI
AtriCure



**2020 HEART BALL
AUCTION CHAIR**

KIMBERLEY DEANE
Rango Honey



**2021 HEART BALL
CHAIR**

LAURA GROSCHEN
Medtronic

"Thank you to these leaders for continuing to drive our mission for a world of longer, healthier lives."

John Babitt, Ernst & Young
Robin Brinker, AtriCure
Laura Groschen, Medtronic
Jayme Hanson, Heraeus Medical
Kyle Johnson, Deloitte
Tom KraMer, Kablooe

Srijoy Mahapatra, M Health Fairview
& University of Minnesota
Brian Novak, Boston Scientific
John Rondoni, Inspire Medical
Pam Simons, AtriCure

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**HEART of the CITY
HONOREES**

Gary and Sue Ellis



2020 ELT

Heart.org/TCHearBall



Ahmed with his father, Mohamed



Pam with her late husband, Rod and their daughter



Robin's late father, Daniel

SHARE IN THEIR STORIES

It's about more time...

ATRICURE'S TEAM SHARES THEIR 'WHY' AND WHAT THEY WOULD DO WITH MORE TIME.

"Every day I wish we had more time."

-Pam Simons

For Ahmed Elmouelhi, Pam Simons and Robin Brinker, the desire for more time is something woven into their every day lives; each touched by the effects of heart complications and stroke. Approximately every 40 seconds, someone is affected by a heart attack or stroke and for families like theirs, this is all too real.

At the age of 62, Ahmed's father suffered a stroke, something that kills 1 in 19 Americans. Luckily, Ahmed's father being a physician recognized the stroke symptoms; including slurred speech and a droop on one side of his face and sought immediate medical attention. Due to the severity of the stroke, doctors said if he would've waited any longer to seek help, they're not sure he'd be here today.

"It was difficult for me to see my dad so vulnerable and sick, but I'm grateful he survived so we can have more time together," Ahmed said.

For Pam and Robin, their loved ones are sadly no longer with them to share more time together.

Pam's husband Rod was aware that coronary artery disease and stroke ran in his family, so he had regular preventative echocardiograms every 18 months. At the age of 56, Rod suffered an aortic aneurysm, which despite monitoring regularly, must have grown so quickly that it was not detected at his last check.

Pam shared, "We support the American Heart Association because we want to prevent another family from losing a father and husband too soon."

For Robin, her father's first heart event in his 50s resulted in a stent. Unfortunately, her father joined the 30% of heart attack victims likely to have a 2nd episode, and passed away at the age of 71.

"If I had more time with my dad, I think the big thing would be spending more quiet time with him."

-Robin

As the 2020 Heart Ball comes to a close, we take Ahmed, Pam and Robin's stories with us as we move forward; striving to create a world of longer, healthier lives. For as they shared with us, there is nothing more precious and valuable than more time with those we love.

2020 Leadership



Ahmed Elmouelhi
2020 Heart Ball Chair

Vice President
Product Marketing & Strategy
AtriCure

Ahmed Elmouelhi serves as vice president at AtriCure, a medical device company on a mission to reduce the global Afib epidemic and heal the lives of those affected. AtriCure is a proud sponsor of the Twin Cities AHA and the AHA of Ohio. Ahmed's 17-year tenure in health care has focused on pioneering novel products and market introductions to address cardiovascular and neurological disease. He is part of the success story at AtriCure and previously Medtronic, AGA Medical, and St Jude Medical. Ahmed's personal "Reason Why" involves his father's successful recovery from stroke and his father-in-law's management of rheumatic heart disease.

2020 ELT

John Babitt, *Ernst & Young*
Robin Brinker, *AtriCure*
Kimberley Deane, *Rango Honey*
Laura Groschen, *Medtronic*
Jayme Hanson, *Heraeus Medical Components*
Kyle Johnson, *Deloitte*
Tom KraMer, *Kablooe Design*
Srijoy Mahapatra, *M Health Fairview & University of Minnesota*
Brian Novak, *Boston Scientific*
John Randoni, *Inspire Medical Systems, Inc.*
Pam Simons, *AtriCure*

HEART OF THE CITY HONOREES



GARY & SUE ELLIS

Decades of support and leadership have led to an incredible impact, not only here in Minnesota, but around the country.

This year, we honor Gary and Sue Ellis with the Twin Cities Heart of the City award. In 1984, Gary, with the support of his wife Sue, joined the American Heart Association Board and began a legacy of giving and leadership. Since then Gary has held six other board positions and has continued to give generously in support of the American Heart Association's mission.

In addition to supporting the American Heart Association, Gary and Sue also support their local church, Greater Twin Cities United Way, and the Science Museum of Minnesota. As we come together on November 6th, we encourage everyone to take inspiration from Gary and Sue and their impactful generosity in striving for a world of longer, healthier lives.

2021 Leadership

Laura Groschen serves as the Chief Information Officer for Medtronic's Global Functions and Cardiac & Vascular Group. Prior to joining Medtronic in 2016, Laura held executive business and information technology leadership roles at UnitedHealth Group, Wells Fargo, and KPMG.

Laura is truly honored and blessed to be part of the AHA Community as heart-related diseases have taken or impacted the lives of many of her family members.

Laura is a Minnesota Native who currently resides in Eagan with her family.

If you are interested in joining Laura, and working alongside her in making an impact in Minnesota communities, please reach out to Amy Green for information on being a part of the Executive Leadership Team.

amy.green@heart.org



Laura Groschen
2021 Heart Ball Chair
Vice President & Chief Information
Officer Cardiac & Vascular Group
Medtronic