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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands (LSSVI) is saddened to learn of the passing of our longtime friend Dave Nelson. Our hearts grieve for his loss and the void he leaves behind. We mourn with his family, pray for God's grace, and comfort during this difficult time.

Dave leaves a footprint of remarkable support for LSSVI and Queen Louise Home for Children. We especially remember Dave's active role for more than two decades as the Chair of the American Airlines Charity Golf Classic to benefit Queen Louise Home.

In 1983, the Directors of Queen Louise Home held the first-ever charity golf tournament to help raise funds for the Home. That event generated about \$10,000. As time went on, others became involved, but no one has had a greater impact than Dave Nelson, who first participated in the event in 1994, the 11th year. Dave fell in love with the children at Queen Louise and immediately committed himself to helping in any way he could to make the tournament a success.

He became an on-the-road advocate for Queen Louise Home for Children. When he travelled as part of his coaching and managing duties, he routinely recruited players to come to St. Croix for the tournament. He encouraged his friends and business associates to become sponsors, he "persuaded" others to donate items for the auction, and he sought out unique items for the auction on his own. He was an invaluable part of the event, serving as a goodwill ambassador throughout the year. "Dave's impact on the success of the tournament will forever be etched in the history of Queen Louise Home for Children," noted Junia John-Straker, Chief Executive Officer of LSSVI.

Dave's career as a professional player began in 1964 with the Indians and enjoyed a 14-year professional playing career. During his minor league days, he was League stolen base champ three times. Dave broke into the majors with Cleveland in 1968 and played for the Tribe for two seasons before moving on to Washington. Top base stealing campaign was in 1972 when he stole 51 bases trailing league leader Bert Campaneris by only one base. That year, he always had the green light from Manager, Ted Williams, who rarely allowed any player such free rein. Dave's finest playing season came in 1973 when he was named to the American League All_Star team as he hit .286 with seven home runs, 48 runs batted in and 43 stolen bases for the Rangers. In 1974, Dave stole 2nd, 3rd and home in the same sequence; a feat only accomplished a few times this century. Dave concluded his career with two years in Kansas City, 1976-77 including playing in the 1976 ALCS with the Royals. For his career, he stole a total of 187 bases.

May his soul rest in peace.

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Queen Louise Home for Children is a haven and 24-hour residential foster care program for children in the Virgin Islands who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected, and/or have severe disabilities. The program provides temporary placement in a family setting

where children receive unconditional love and support, as well as tutoring, recreational activities, guidance in overall skill development and access to medical support. Established on St. Croix in 1904, Queen Louise Home is a program of Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands (LSSVI) – the largest private, nonprofit social services agency in the US Virgin Islands. For more information or to donate to Queen Louise Home for Children or other LSSVI programs, please visit www.lssvi.org

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