Dr. Bert Pyle could walk into a room and touch and talk to patients.

“After he left, they felt like they had a better shot than anything we could give them,” said Kay Olmsted, who worked at Gothenburg Memorial Hospital where Pyle made his rounds.

That’s when the hospital stood on top of the hill at the intersection of 20th Street and Avenue F.

Bonnie Paulsen, who was the doctor’s receptionist at his clinic at Ninth Street and Avenue D, said Pyle was always willing to work with people in paying their bills.

“He was very compassionate,” said Paulsen, who worked with the doctor for 26 years.

Because Pyle was such a big part of Gothenburg and saved many lives, the two women touted a collection at the Gothenburg Historical Museum that displays his surgical instruments, medical books and more.

The Pyle family donated the collection to the museum.

“He saved lives with this kind of equipment, primitive sterilization and we never wore gloves,” Olmsted said, noting that the display shows the vast difference between when Pyle first began practicing in Gothenburg in 1929 and today.