



Hospice Alliance™
Ask for us by name



December 2020

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your past support of Hospice Alliance. I am blessed to have witnessed the impact your commitment has had on families, friends, and neighbors in our community, and wanted to share with you a story of another friend of Hospice Alliance who shared so much with us...

When Barb became a patient in the Hospice House last summer, she and her family didn't need a tour. They didn't need to hear about the beautiful gardens, the quilts, or even where we keep cookies in the kitchen. Barb's family had been a fixture around Hospice Alliance for a decade and a half.

The family's first direct experience came as daughter Linda's husband finished his battle with pancreatic cancer under our care.

Moved by the level of care and compassion Hospice Alliance staff delivered to the young couple, Barb's husband, 'Fire Suit Phil,' harnessed his automotive passions as a drag racer and enthusiast to organize the Hospice Alliance Car Show and Craft Fair for the benefit of future patients and their families. Phil and Barb, along with Linda and her two brothers led the Car Show benefit. And, the family's tradition continued even after Phil passed.

After more than a decade raising tens of thousands of dollars to ensure there would be care for others in their time of need, Barb shifted gears to directly serve those families as a Hospice Alliance volunteer.



Barb called bingo at assisted living homes on our behalf and gently held the hands of those most vulnerable as a Vigil Volunteer. Devoting hours of her time to those in the Hospice House, Barb was one of us...and her lungs were failing her.

From her bed in Room One, Barb experienced the benefits she and her family had helped to provide—compassionate care from our staff, birds visiting the feeder outside her window - the yellow one was her favorite - the cadence of the water feature just beyond, restful hours with Linda watching old movies, a visit from Lowla the basset hound, and a fully stocked cookie jar in the kitchen.

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During each visit, Barb would ask Linda to bring her a fresh-baked cookie from the Hospice House kitchen noting, "just one, Linda...leave some for the others."

Thanks to Barb and her generosity to Hospice Alliance, there will always be some for the others.

Like Barb, you or someone close to you, has a personal story about how Hospice Alliance provided comfort and support during a loved one's final days.

Making a donation will continue to make it possible for others.

This past year has been anything but business as usual, but thanks to supporters like you, Hospice Alliance has been able to rise to the occasion.



- We developed programming to support our patients further isolated due to the threat of COVID-19 as they battle the psychological effects of visitor limitations. These included our website additions - Activities and Adventures and Until Next Time music therapy videos - as well as sharing greeting cards, activity books and cheerful décor with our patients and their families.
- We continue to utilize technology to facilitate FaceTime and Skype calls to ensure our patients and their families stay connected when it matters most.
- We educated and supported our patients' friends and families who struggled with COVID-19 safety protocols by providing COVID-19 fact sheets, visitor logs and screening forms for our at-home patients.
- We invested in Personal Protective Equipment. Our clinical team has been in full PPE since mid-March, and that will continue well into 2021.

As it has done throughout its forty-year history, Hospice Alliance has risen to the challenges of 2020 to continue to provide best-in-class care for our patients and their families. I am incredibly proud of our staff and humbled by the support of our community, knowing none of this would be possible without our donors!

Especially during these challenging times, your contribution makes a true difference. It is truly a gift of compassion. Please remember the care Hospice Alliance provides during this season of giving and make your donation today.

Warmest Regards,

Rita Hagen, MSN, RN Executive Director

P.S. Your tax deductible gift in any amount is a huge help! Hospice Alliance never turns away a patient based on inability to pay, but your financial support is critical in allowing this to happen. Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope today!

