

Bonjour

December 2022

During this season of giving, I am writing to thank you for your past support of Hospice Alliance. Daily I am blessed to witness the impact your commitment has made for family, friends, and neighbors during one of life's most difficult times.



Hospice Alliance patient John, and his devoted volunteer, Susan connect over their affinity for the French language.

While the last year has continued to present challenges, supporters like you have helped us ensure continued quality, compassionate care for our patients and their families. In the last year, we've:

- Added a Life Enrichment Coordinator to enhance the days of many.
- Launched Connections Planting Seeds of Hope
 a grief support program for children.
- Earned accolades from our community including Kenosha's Best Place to Work by the Kenosha Area Chamber of Commerce and Best of Kenosha County for Health and Wellness/Senior Services for the 6th year in a row.

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Read on to learn about our patient John and our volunteer, Susan, who found a profound connection.

10220 Prairie Ridge Blvd., Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158 (262) 652–4400 • hospicealliance.org John did not have a chance to go to college. Like others his age, he signed up to go to war. But if you look up life-long-learner in the dictionary, you might find his picture. Over the years, his interest ranged from calculus to aviation before landing squarely on French – specifically the language.

Almost two decades ago, John ran an ad in the Kenosha News seeking someone with whom he could learn to speak French. When John entered our care, he mentioned his fancy for French and his elementary skill level. Because it can never hurt to ask, Volunteer Coordinator Beth sent an email to her troops to learn if we had any French-speaking volunteers. Volunteer Susan answered.

For months, Susan and John met frequently. They got-on well and enjoyed exploring resources to hone their conversational and literacy skills reading articles in Bien Dire magazine, Paris' Le Monde daily paper online and discussing them in French (of course!). They also enjoyed watching movies, listening to CDs (especially Christmas songs), and learning French prayers.

During John's last days, thanks to the help of the dutiful Susan, they celebrated with Beaujolias Nouveau, a French wine, and enjoyed conversing – quite fluently – in the language of his dreams.

You or someone close to you may have a personal story like John's about how Hospice Alliance's team added life to days. Returning the enclosed envelope will continue to make stories like this possible for others.

Your gift makes a difference, and we continue to need your support for special opportunities like these and so many others. I ask that you remember Hospice Alliance's commitment to the community during this season of giving by making your donation today.

Warmest regards,

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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 for inability to pay. Your financial support is critical in making this happen. Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope today.

Comment allez-vous?