



December 2023

I'm contacting you during this season of giving to thank you for your past support of Hospice Alliance. It is truly wonderful to witness the impact you've had in our community. I want to share with you how Harry, a recent patient, lived our mission by "adding life to days."

Two of Harry's favorite things were ice cream and travel. In his lifetime, he had the opportunity to visit all seven continents, and if he missed having ice cream in Antarctica, he more than made up for it in Wisconsin.

During his time in hospice care with us, Harry was able to continue his adventures...albeit a bit closer to home. Most days, his daughter, Jody, would take him out on drives. They'd jump in the car and head off in a different direction than the day before. They cruised by parks like Sanders and Island where Harry played ball, past Western Publishing where he worked long ago, and north along the lakefront identifying the best fishing spots. Inevitably, they always stopped for ice cream. Any shop would do!

He ventured to Lake Tomahawk, spending time fishing and enjoying the sights and sounds of the Northwoods. His trip made possible due to a travel contract our team helped to set up – where hospices connect to ensure resources are available outside the "home" hospice's footprint.

But the best road trip of all was an old stomping grounds tour of Door County. Harry had built a place in Peninsula Center when his kids were young, and they enjoyed spending days creating memories. This time, with his daughter at the wheel, they ventured by the old "barn" for the last time together.

They logged stops to reconnect with old Racine friends who moved on to Ellison Bay and Baileys Harbor. They tucked into Pebble Beach in Sister Bay to breathe in its peace and beauty, and spent time surveying the bass and panfish population in Kangaroo Lake.

Riding down North Bay Shore Drive they pointed out the goats munching lunch on the roof of Al Johnson's, as if surprised. The memories, some shared for the hundredth time and some for the very first, were only made sweeter with a stop at Wilson's for ice cream.

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Like Harry and Jody, you, or someone close to you probably has a “Hospice Alliance Story” of the physical, emotional, and spiritual care provided for a family member or friend. Returning the enclosed envelope with a donation will continue to make it possible for others. Here are just a few of our achievements in 2023, thanks to supporters like you:

- Introduced the “Heartbeat Project” where our Music Therapist creates a custom memento for families with a cherished song.
- Re-launched our Dementia Live education outreach to grow understanding of living with cognitive impairment and sensory change.
- Earned Best in Racine and Best in Kenosha accolades.

However, Hospice Alliance needs your support once again to continue our mission in 2024 including:

- Adding Reiki to our Complementary Therapy program.
- Covering Hospice Alliance room and board, which can be a saving grace for many patients and families.

Hospice Alliance is your community-based, not-for-profit choice for hospice care and supportive care management. We are committed to providing compassionate comfort and educating our patients, those who support them and the communities we serve.

We thank you for your support – emotionally, practically, and financially. We couldn’t do what we do without you.

Happy holidays from all of us at Hospice Alliance.



Rita Hagen, MSN, RN
Executive Director

P.S. Your (tax-deductible) gift, of any amount, makes a huge difference to the patients and families in our care. Hospice Alliance never turns anyone away based on inability to pay. During this season of giving, please consider a contribution in the enclosed envelope today.

