



Dear Friends of Hospice,

"It only takes one person to lead you to the place you truly belong."

For most of us, the holiday season has been a time of joyful anticipation, celebrating with loved ones, reflecting on the past year and looking forward to new events and adventures in the year ahead. It was a time of family, fun and festivities. But sometimes, our lives take an unexpected turn, and our path leads us to a place we never planned to be. It is our privilege to share with you the story of Madonna Mallen and how her own unexpected events led her to Hospice.

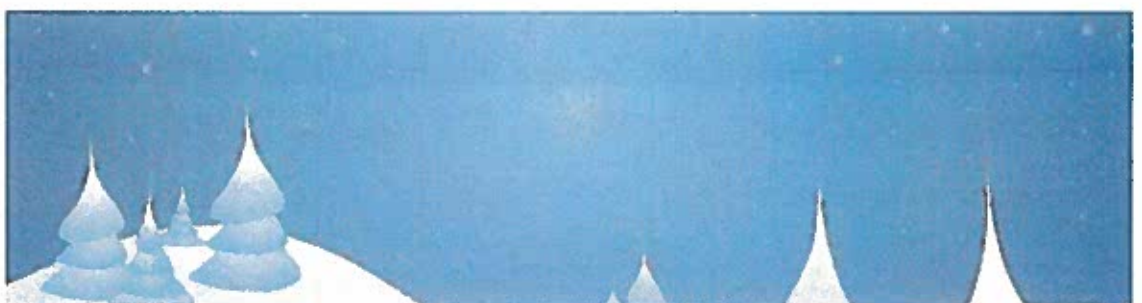
"I will never forget that moment when my husband, Pat, needed more than me. Things seemed to be hopeless for us. I was completely exhausted – emotionally and physically; drained from giving 24-hour care to my ailing husband, with whom I shared over 60 years of love and devotion. The role of caregiver was too much for me to handle alone. I knew there was only one thing I could do to help.

Right away, the only person I thought of was Sally. Sally is a long-time Hospice volunteer who had visited with Pat and I in hospital and at home, providing friendly visiting. Even in some of our most difficult moments, Sally's warmth and compassion shone through and we shared many laughs and happy moments with her. She's such a loving person.

Sally always told us Hospice is there for everyone when they need it, so I knew it was time to call and ask for their help. From the moment we entered the Hospice Residential Home it was an oasis of peace. The home was full of the holidays, from the beautiful decorations all around to the sincere holiday spirit of the staff and volunteers. It felt like home – a place of smiles, welcome and family. And, when Pat died, we were all with him and it was a peaceful, comforting time. As Pat transitioned, the Hospice provided an Honour Guard just as another way to show their dignity and respect.

A year passed, and after all the great things that we experienced during Pat's stay in the Hospice Residential Home, I knew I needed to give back to families what I had received. I've now been volunteering for six years, and it is a privilege and an honour to be with families at their most vulnerable times in their lives."

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Madonna and her family returned to the care of Hospice when her brother became ill just a little over a year ago. Once again, the Hospice Residential Home became their oasis of peace and nurturing – just what the family needed.

"It's such a special relationship to be both a volunteer and then a recipient of the warmth and care from all the staff and volunteers. You see it with new eyes, and again understand how wonderful this home is in this community, and how lucky we are to have it. The act of volunteering allows me to give to families what I received during both experiences with my husband and my brother – a warm smile, a knowing embrace or just someone to sit with in silence."

"What I get out of Hospice is 100x greater than what I give."

It is volunteers like Madonna that help us make our Hospice Residential Home into a true family home, especially during the holidays. For the last 38 years, the Hospice has been proud to serve our friends and neighbours in Windsor and Essex County, providing compassionate care to all those who need it most. Since 1979, you have been the driving force behind that care. Your passion, vision, volunteerism and financial support have ensured that there will always be a Hospice to turn to. With your help, we have served more than 2,000 patients and families in the last year alone, and with your continued support we will offer a helping hand to many more in years to come.

From our family to yours, we would like to thank you for being champions of Hospice in our community.

Sincerely,

Carol Derbyshire
Executive Director

Please tear here.

Town of Kingsville
2021 Division Rd N
Kingsville ON N9Y 2Y9

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Donation Options:

Mail: Kindly respond by using this convenient tear away form and enclosed envelope.

Online: www.thehospice.ca/donations

In Person/Phone: Visit The Hospice Village at 6038 Empress St. See our Receptionist or contact our Donor Relations & Stewardship Specialist at 519 251.2558.

Yes, I would like to make a donation to The Hospice of Windsor & Essex County. (A tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$10 or more)

Ambassador of Hospice (\$5,000+)	\$ _____
Champion of Hospice (\$2,500-\$4,999)	\$ _____
Leader of Hospice (\$1,000-\$2,499)	\$ _____
Partner of Hospice (\$250-\$999)	\$ _____
Friend of Hospice (\$1-\$249)	\$ _____

☐ Enclosed is a cheque payable to: The Hospice

☐ Please charge my credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

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