

A lasting legacy of love

Anne Jarvis's gratitude for the care her mother received at Victoria Hospice is boundless.

She has included Hospice in her Will, donates annually, and advocates for vulnerable seniors – all to honour the compassion she found at Victoria Hospice.

"I feel like it's my way of giving back in exchange for everything I received," she says.

"Victoria Hospice is my number one beneficiary because they were there to help my mother, Bonnie, when she needed it the most. Instead of spending her last days home alone and frightened, she got to spend them relaxed, free from pain, and without having to navigate the community health care network.

"Once she arrived at Victoria Hospice, everything changed. Everything was taken care of. And we were both at ease."

It was important to both mother and daughter that Bonnie was never alone while she was at hospice. The care team immediately took extra steps to grant their wish.

"They moved in an extra bed for me to stay overnight next to Mum, so I could always hold her hand. She wasn't alone once. They made it happen with compassion and care."



Anne's decision to leave a legacy gift is her way of paying it forward

Anne's experience with Victoria Hospice inspired her to advocate for seniors who need help.

"Since my mum's experience at hospice, any time a senior has come to me asking for help, I've done everything I can to support them."

"Anne's generosity and foresight in leaving a gift in her Will is a powerful expression of love, compassion, and

hope for the future," Director of Fund Development Wendy Innes says. "We are deeply grateful to Anne and the many other people who have chosen to leave a lasting legacy of care and comfort."

Anne feels that Bonnie would be happy about her decision. "I like to think that Mum would approve. I can feel her hand in mine right now."

Read more about how your generosity makes a difference in our 2023–24 Annual Report at victoriahospiceimpact.org



Light, Love, and Compassion



happiness



In memory: Donna created happiness wherever she went

Donna Boffo brought light, love, and compassion to every aspect of her life.

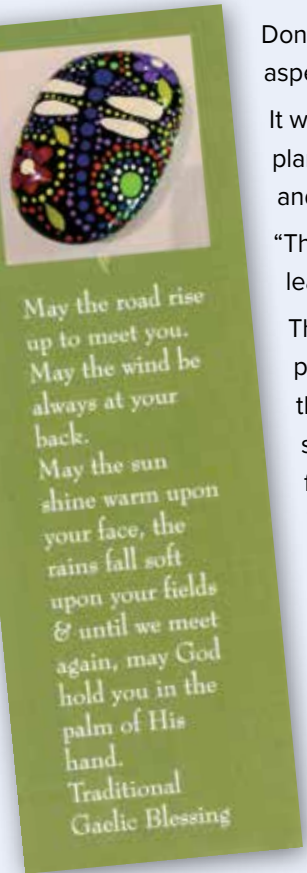
It was no surprise to Donna's longtime friend Dina that she planned to leave a gift to Hospice in her Will, for the comfort and care of people she would never have the chance to meet.

"That was just the way she was. Always thinking of others and leaving things better than she found them," Dina says.

Throughout her life, Donna loved to create objects such as painted rocks, sun catchers, and colourful garden stakes, then leave them in parks and on pathways to brighten a stranger's day. In the past, she had donated the proceeds from the sale of her garden stakes and rocks at the Teeny Tiny Garden Tour. Now, her legacy gift ensures that patients and their families will continue to receive her support long after she's gone.

After she received her own life-limiting diagnosis, Donna decided she wanted to make a meaningful contribution to the community she would one day leave behind. Including Hospice in her estate was a natural choice.

Victoria Hospice celebrates every legacy gift with gratitude. Read more about Donna's story and find out how you can create your own legacy of compassion at victoriahospice.org.



Marney Thompson with her family at Government House after receiving her medal

Marney Thompson Honoured

Victoria Hospice Director of Bereavement Services Marney Thompson has been awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal, which recognizes people who have made significant contributions to Canada and their home provinces.

The award was presented in a special ceremony at Government House July 18, 2024, by The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

Thirty-thousand people have been selected from across the country for the Coronation Medal, the first Canadian honour to mark a coronation.

Marney Thompson is an international expert in grief and loss. She joined Victoria Hospice as a practicum student focussed on child and youth care in 1990 and was hired as a community counsellor in 1994.

She has worked on the Inpatient Unit, the Palliative Response Team, and is a highly valued and respected member of the Victoria Hospice senior leadership team.

A skilled educator and researcher, she has co-authored numerous articles and the award-winning book, *Transitions in Dying and Bereavement: A psychosocial guide for hospice and palliative care*.

She is an executive member of the Canadian Grief Alliance, a member of the Advisory Committee for the BC Centre for Palliative Care Provincial Roundtable on Bereavement, and clinical co-lead and co-founder of the BC Psychosocial ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) project. She shares her knowledge as a content advisor, facilitator, and writer with Canadian Virtual Hospice.

Being present in the moment

“This is really precious work,” Sandra Joy says, reflecting on her role as a Victoria Hospice volunteer.

“I think there’s often a huge openness that people experience at the end of their lives – there is nothing else but where they’re at. If you, as a volunteer, can meet them in the moment by just allowing the space to be there for them – by listening to their words, by a touch or a smile, by reading a favourite verse to them, or holding a glass of water while they sip – then this is precious work.”

Sandra previously enjoyed a long and active career as a systems analyst and change management consultant in the early transformative era of IT in South Africa and later in Canada and the U.S.

Over her 14 years of involvement with Victoria Hospice, Sandra has contributed as an Inpatient Unit volunteer, mentor, admin support person, and as a member of a Volunteer Advisory Council where her thoughtful questions and constructive feedback have been greatly valued.

“Sandra Joy is a volunteer who goes above and beyond,” says Volunteer Coordinator Julia Dawson. “As her last name indicates, she brings ‘joy’ to her every interaction.”

Sandra has an early (7 am) shift on the Inpatient Unit and acknowledges that every shift is different. There is always a check in with the care team re the status of patients, and after that attending to whatever need is most pressing: answering patient call bells, making coffee, chatting with family who may have stayed overnight, helping with personal care and breakfast, providing companionship at the bedside, laundry, etc. She provides a wholehearted, calm, and caring presence.



Volunteers, like Sandra Joy, are the heart of Victoria Hospice

Sandra recently received a Victoria Hospice Honorary Lifetime Membership award, given to volunteers who have demonstrated exemplary service. She is recognized as an invaluable team player with many skills that benefit both the organization and people receiving Hospice care.

Your Donation Makes a Difference

YES! I will join the Hospice Hearts Monthly Giving Club!

My **monthly donation** will be: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other

My **one-time donation** will be: \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other

Name

Address

City/Province

Postal Code

Phone

Email

Please send me Victoria Hospice Connections e-newsletters.

I would like to find out more about including Victoria Hospice in my will.

I have included Victoria Hospice in my will.

I wish to remain anonymous.

Credit card type: VISA MasterCard AmEx

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Expiry date: ___ / ___

My donation is in memory in honour of

Please send an acknowledgement letter to

Name

Address

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Compassionate end-of-life care at Victoria Hospice is made possible through the generosity of our community. The people named below have been commemorated in memory or in honour by friends and loved ones through gifts to Victoria Hospice from May 31 to September 8, 2024.

IN MEMORY Renee Abrioux • Sidney Alexander • Joan Andersen • Penny Authier • Jeannette Ballard • Pamela Barry Alan Batten • Patricia Bell • Bonnie Bell • Doug Biffard • Kathryn Blaikie • Robert Blaikie • David Bone • Bob Buckingham Margaret E. Campbell • Susan E. Camps • Cindy Casey • Dale Chekwech • John P. Corak • Gerri Cosgrove • Jenny Cox Egle Debei • Dominic DeMeo • Sharron Dezell • Allan R. Doty • Sandra Duchene • Joseph Dumouchel • Barbara Eldred Manuel Pam Engwer • Donna Fleming • Julie Flemming • Margaret A. Ford • Roger Francis • Susan Fritz • Donald Gajda • Eunice Gibb Grace M. Gilmore-Cutler • Phyllis Gray • Marguerite Green • M. Gropp • Robert Guskey • Sheila Harvey • Bunny Hawkes Garry Hayes • Donna Hooper • Lesley Hulme • Don Irish • Mary Irish • Georgia Jesney • Brodie R. Johnson • Pauline Johnson Christie Kalnins • Stephen Kendall • Nora Kong • Ryan C. Krisher • Jerald Kustaski • Florida Laforest • Middleton Lambert Lavone Landie • Kenneth C. Lawrence • William Lawson • Lisa J. Layton • Betty Leadley • Dolores Leavitt • Victoria Lindgren John Lobsinger • Patricia J. Loughran • Sarah MacDonald • Mike Macfarlane • Ruth Mackie • Judy MacLachlan Margaret Matheson • Hazel McCudden • Tom McGreer • Janice McIvor • Colin A. McNeil • Caroline Meggison • Kim Murray Loretta Mutch • Eissa Nafisi • Fred A. Neveaux • Mila Nikolich • Eliane Nugent • Michael O'Fallon • Gail Owens • Herb Painter Mary Painter • David Parry • Evalyn Partridge • Robert M. Paterson • Rita J. Paulhus • Paul Perry • Tonny P. Petersen Kevin Peterson • Sylvia B. Plumridge • John Plumridge • Reginald Potts • Ailsa Quann • Donald A. Rahrck • Theodore Raptis Margaret Redway • John Robertson • Katherine Rogers • Milforde Rose • Tara S. Ross • Robert Rouse • Glen Roy • Denise Schaubek Arthur Searle • Hiroko Shimizu • Brian Shorter • Lynda Sieber • Alex Skourides • Ceri E. Smith • Gillian Smith • Doug Smith Sheryl Steeves • Donna Sterling • Dallas Stober • Marge Stoker • Andy Stringfellow • Howard Swift • Edna Szabados Shirley Tucker • Michael Wainwright • William J. West • Jean L. Wilson • Paul S. Wong • Yuk Y. Wong • Joyce Woods Andrew Wooldridge • Wendy E. Wyles

IN HONOUR Sarah Lancaster

We'd love to hear your hospice story. Please connect with us if you would like to share your experience.

Contact Loralee Smyth
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Victoria Hospice respects your privacy and we do not sell, trade, lend, or rent your personal information.



Do you want to meet other grieving people? Are you ready to share and listen to peoples' experiences with grief? Join Victoria Hospice for a Grief Café.

A grief cafe is a social gathering of people in bereavement who wish to share their own experience and listen to others.

These sessions are intended to be social in nature and are not a substitute for medical care or counselling.

Where: Victoria Hospice Community Support Centre, 102-4450 Chatterton Way

When: October 17, November 6 & 21, December 4 & 16, January 8 & 23

There is no cost to participate, but registration is required. Learn more at victoriahospice.org/events



Thank you to our riders, generous sponsors and community supporters for helping raise **over \$350K this year** for Vancouver Island hospice care. COLT has now raised **\$2.3M since 2011!**

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