

Seeing the impact makes it easy to give

Joan and Ron

Volunteer, monthly donor, family member, friend are all roles Joan and Ron Sherwood have contributed to Victoria Hospice over the last decade since retiring to the South Island.

A former social worker, Joan first encountered the world of hospice in Merritt where she and Ron, who was raised in Merritt, lived for 36 years and raised their family. A few years after arriving in Victoria in 2012, Joan met a Victoria Hospice volunteer at her church and was drawn to the idea



Joan and Ron Sherwood

of volunteering on the Inpatient Unit. She still volunteers every Tuesday and says her weekly shift on the Unit allows her to “connect with the families and visitors, providing that overarching, peaceful, gentle environment that everyone deserves at the end of life.”

Joan and Ron both recognize the tremendous value in supporting Victoria Hospice, where nearly half of the funding comes from individual donations and community contributions. “We are monthly donors because we recognize how important it is that Hospice is open to anyone who needs it, 24/7, 365 days a year,” said Ron.

He, too, has deep connections with friends and family who have spent time there during their final months. Ron cites a friend who recently toured the Inpatient Unit to see if it would be a good place for his wife, and after the tour told Ron, “Boy, I never knew exactly what this place was all about. It’s amazing. The people, the place, the warm environment.”

“We realized that by becoming sustaining monthly donors, we could provide Hospice with a commitment they could count on at regular intervals throughout the year.”

Continued on page 2

VICTORIA  HOSPICE
PRESENTS

*Fashion
for
Compassion*

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2026**
Noon - 3:00 pm
Tickets: \$195

DELTA OCEAN POINTE RESORT

Join us for a chic and delightful afternoon to support compassionate end-of-life care at Victoria Hospice.

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sold
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Seeing the impact makes it easy to give *continued from page 1*

His words really hit home with Ron, and it was then that Ron realized hospice is so much more than a place for the patient to find comfort. "It's also a place for families and loved ones to find peace," he says. "That's why we are such huge supporters. There is truly nothing else like it, and not enough people know that it's here."

Monthly donors, known fondly as **Hospice Hearts Club** members, enable the Society to offer a level of service, care and compassion that would otherwise not be available. This care is not only provided on the Inpatient Unit, but also in the community through the Palliative Response Team, and through Bereavement Services, including counselling for children and youth who are grieving someone important to them. Thanks to the Sherwoods, these essential community programs are there when people need them.

Pauline and Larry

Pauline and Larry Rittenhouse love attending the Victoria Hospice donor teas. "They are such a wonderful opportunity to connect with like-minded people and hear the stories of why they are also supporters," shared Pauline on a recent sunny afternoon in their living room.

Donors for nearly three decades, they first gave at a Victoria Hospice Swimathon in May 1997 and have continued to donate each year since.

In 2011, they learned about becoming monthly donors through the **Hospice Hearts Club**. "Initially, we would give each year in memory of someone who had died," said Larry. "Then we realized that by becoming sustaining monthly donors, we could provide Hospice with a commitment they could count on at regular intervals throughout the year."

In 2018, the Rittenhouses confirmed they will be leaving a gift to Victoria Hospice in their Wills. They also recently doubled their monthly donation recognizing the value these regular contributions provide for planning round-the-clock, year-round care on the Inpatient Unit, in the community, and through bereavement support to people who need it the most.



Larry and Pauline Rittenhouse

Simple. Convenient. Powerful.

Monthly giving as a member of the **Hospice Hearts Club** is the best way to stay on top of your donations and help Victoria Hospice to plan and execute programs more effectively.

We invite you to become a monthly donor and join Joan & Ron and Pauline & Larry in ensuring patients and families receive compassionate care for decades to come.

www.victoriahospice.org/monthly

**Hospice
Hearts Club
Member**

**VICTORIA
HOSPICE**

Double your impact! *Donate by October 7 and your first three gifts will be matched!*



Thank you to our riders, generous sponsors and community supporters for helping raise **\$460,000 this year** for Vancouver Island hospice care. Cycle of Life Tour has raised **\$3 million since 2011!**

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FUELLED BY Country Grocer
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Every step for Gramma: Running with Purpose

"I think my Gramma would be so proud."

For Julia Chan, the Royal Victoria Marathon (RVM) is much more than a gruelling run—it resonates with heartfelt remembrance and, at the same time, celebrates the power of personal determination.

Julia is running in memory of her grandmother, Marina, who passed away in 2017 after a brief battle with cancer. Marina was initially treated in the Patient Care Centre at Royal Jubilee Hospital, but when she learned her prognosis had irreversibly declined, she made the decision to live out her final days in her family's home on Bear Mountain. With the help of Victoria Hospice's Palliative Response Team, Marina's final wishes were realized and she died, as she wanted, at home surrounded by family.



Julia and her grandmother, Marina

Running alongside Julia will be her dad, Sunny, who is Marina's son. Together, they are running in Marina's memory and to honour the Victoria Hospice Palliative Response Team who made Marina's final journey a peaceful one.

Julia wasn't always a runner. It was her husband who encouraged her to join him six years ago during the COVID-19 pandemic. "At first, I could only run for five minutes at a time," she says. "But I kept at it, and now I'm running with my Dad. We just finished the TC 10K and I'm now working up to running the RVM Half Marathon with him in October. I think my Gramma would be so proud."



Julia and her dad, Sunny, after the 2026 TC 10K

The Royal Victoria Marathon takes place on Sunday, October 1, and Victoria Hospice is one of the RVM charities of choice again this year. For more information or to support Julia and others running to support Victoria Hospice, visit victoriahospice.org/events

Signing up to be a monthly donor is the best way to support Hospice care!

Give the gift of compassionate care

☐ **Yes, I will join** the Hospice Hearts Club with a **monthly donation** of ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other/month

☐ 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 have included Victoria Hospice in my will.

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

☐ I wish to remain anonymous.

Credit card type: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx

Card #

Expiry date: ____ / ____

My donation is ☐ in memory ☐ in honour of

Please send an acknowledgement letter to

Name

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City/Prov/Postal

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We do not sell, rent, or trade any personal information we collect. If you wish to update

your communication preferences or be removed from our mailing list, please contact us at 250.519.1744 or email donate@victoriahospice.org.

For more details on our privacy policy, please visit victoriahospice.org/privacy-policy

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 14, 2026 to August 18, 2026.

IN MEMORY Anna-Maria Alejandro • Sidney Alexander • Gary Anderson • Tamara M. Atkinson • Penny Authier Jeannette Ballard • Pamela Barry • Duncan Batty • Barbara Beck • Patricia Bell • Bonnie Bell • Agnes Bentley Stephen D. Blackwood • Robert Blaikie • Kathryn Blaikie • David Bone • Sandy Boorman • Bella Bourakovskaia Diane Bowman • Robert Brodie • Kjeld Brodsgaard • Hazel Brooks • Bob Buckingham • Rickardo Calderon de la Barca Margaret E. Campbell • Kirk Cavanagh • Juliana Chupick • Keri L. Coles • Dorothy Cook • George Cowman Jenny Cox • Johanna Cutchner • Heather Davies • Lorraine DeGirolamo • Dominic DeMeo • Sharron Dezell Stuart A. Drummond • Sandra Duchene • Carol Elder • Barbara Eldred Manuel • Marjorie Elphick • Brigitte Faust Stephen Fincham • Margaret A. Ford • Dean Forsythe • Susan Fritz • Donald Gajda • Frances Gaudet Christine A. Godfrey • Kara L. Goetze • Phyllis Gray • Marguerite Green • M. Gropp • Douglas Grove June Grove • Robert Guskey • Michael Hadley • Susan J. Hall-Patch • Flora Hamilton • Garry Hayes Hugh H. Hayes • Iris Henslowe • Jean Higgins • Sylvia Holm • Donna Hooper • Josephine Horniak Suzanne Horsley • Faith Hughes • Brian Hume • Mary Irish • Don Irish • Imogene Jackson • Velma Jean Gurdev Kaur Johl • Ian Johnson • Kelly Jones • Heather Keevil • Shauna Klassen • Allan Kraft • Janice Kraft Ryan C. Krisher • Jerald Kustaski • Florida Laforest • Middleton Lambert • Lavone Landie • Kenneth W. Lawrence Kenneth C. Lawrence • William Lawson • Lisa J. Layton • Lois Leslie • Victoria Lindgren • Dan MacKenzie Ruth Mackie • Judy MacLachlan • Susan MacTavish • Cindy Marsh • Kathleen Marshall • Donald Marykuca Linda Maxie • Barbara McCall • Hazel McCudden • Colin McCullough • Joe McGregor • Janice McIvor Anne Marie McLaughlin • Sandy McLellan • Yvette Michel • Gary Mitchell • Mary Morrison • Barry Munro Eissa Nafisi • Douglas Needley • Howard Newell • Eliane Nugent • Michael O'Fallon • Gail Owens • Mary Painter Herb Painter • Robert G. Palmer • Andre Panteleyev • Rod Parkhurst • David Parry • Evalyn Partridge Rita J. Paulhus • Paul Perry • Kevin Peterson • John Plumridge • Sylvia B. Plumridge • Carol M. Poole Cheryl Prestie • Siew K. Quah • Ailsa Quann • Ralph Radom • Donald A. Rahrack • Edward E. Readshaw • Edna M. Ribeiro • Ron Rickards Allen Robb • Annie Roberts • Milforde Rose • Tara S. Ross • Robert Rouse • Greg Schick • Surendra Sehmi • Paul Sekhon • Barry Smith Ceri E. Smith • Judith Southern • Sheryl Steeves • Linda Stern • Dorothy Stirling • Howard Swift • Edna Szabados • Helen Tait • Peter Tennent Isobel A. Thicke • Dennis Todd • Manola Truelson • David Vaillancourt • Patricia D. Vinden • Denise Voss • Michael Wainwright • Dave Weselak William J. West • Roger Wigmore • Audrey Williams • Barb Willock • Jean L. Wilson • David Winn • Joyce Woods • Tyler Wormell • Wendy E. Wyles Mary Anne Yates • Catherine Young

IN HONOUR Christine Jones • Jenn Mjaatveit • David B. Pope • Jalen Sekhon • Patricia Ward

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

Contact Lorelee Smyth
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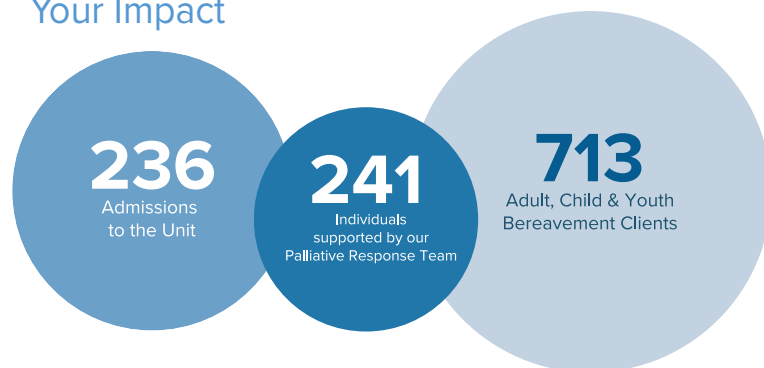
Every moment of care is made possible by you

Thanks to your generosity, Victoria Hospice continues to provide compassionate end-of-life and bereavement care for patients and families when they need it most. Our Annual Report 2025/26 shares more about the people, programs, stories of care and impact your generosity helps make possible. Visit victoriahospice.org/annualreport to learn more or call **250-519-1744** to request a mailed copy.

Your Generosity



Your Impact




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