

7,200 Cookies, Endless Smiles

By Ashley Robison, Digital Philanthropy Specialist

This November marks five years since our “Cookie Cuties” first filled Hospice House with the aroma of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies. Those “Cuties” are Jenn Cunningham and Annie Craig: co-workers at Kettering Medical Center, expert cookie bakers, and guaranteed joy spreaders.

Their journey, as volunteers for Hospice of Dayton, began when Jenn experienced our services while her grandmother was under our care in July 2010. She was so touched by the care we provided for her grandmother and her family that she wanted to get involved. In November 2010, she baked pumpkin pie for patients for Thanksgiving. The next month she baked Christmas cookies. From then on she made it a tradition to bake 120 chocolate chip cookies and deliver them once a month to the Hospice House patients and families.

Annie was new to Dayton and was looking for opportunities to get involved in the community, so Jenn recruited Annie to be the second half of the Cookie Cutie duo!

Five years later they still grace patients and families with their caring presence and a bag of delicious cookies. The Cookie Cuties’ favorite part about volunteering for Hospice of Dayton, Jenn says, “...seeing people’s faces



light up. Families look at us with such appreciation. I’m always honored to be a part of people’s lives, even if it’s at the end.” Annie agrees and adds that she loves “seeing how things are so peaceful here. When you walk in the door you immediately have a sense of peace.” And we are sure the patients and families feel a sense of joy when Jenn and Annie walk into their rooms with smiles and baskets full of cookies!

Do you have a talent you would like to share with Hospice of Dayton and our families. If so, contact Volunteer Services at 937-256-4490.

Learning in the Field

By Vicky Forrest, Media Content Editor



Hospice of Dayton has been hosting Brent Schnipke, a second year medical student at Boonshoft School of Medicine, Wright State University, during this summer. Brent’s interests include medical humanities and student mental health. The future physician chose a service learning elective at Hospice of Dayton after spending some time here when his wife lost a family member a few years ago. “The doctor who provided care was phenomenal,” he recalls. “What really strikes me is how physicians here take so much time with patients and families, and demonstrate compassion at the highest level.” Brent shadowed Dr. MacLean in the Hospice House, made in home visits with Dr. Cass and visited patients with Chaplain Kevin Wardlaw. Asked what surprised him about Hospice of Dayton, he said he had not realized how

many of our patients are in their homes. “Home visits are so rare now, but used to be the way all family doctors saw their patients. It requires travel and means you can see fewer patients, but it clearly means the world to the patients you see.”



For the family at The Salon on Rahn & Day Spa, it’s all about Jeffrey.

By Vicky Forrest, Media Content Editor

Honoring the memory of their founder, Jeffrey Card, is The Salon on Rahn’s inspiration for participating in the Hairshow Outrageous 2 event.

Jeffrey’s signature style can be found in every color choice, flower arrangement and design element of The Salon on Rahn & Day Spa. A staff of thirty-six provides beauty and spa experiences in a serene, spacious and welcoming atmosphere. According to partner Jim Olson, the salon & day spa was the realization of Jeffrey’s dream. “Jeffrey loved giving people opportunities. He helped so many cosmetologists get their start. When he and several of his colleagues’ former salon was sold, many wanted a new place to work and when Jeffrey decided to open a salon & day spa, he wanted to open the best property in town, and give them the best environment in which to work.” The two embarked on renovating the salon & day spa property in 2013. Then their lives took an unexpected turn.

Jeffrey was diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer at the age of 52. Jeffrey received radiation and chemotherapy, followed by surgery. “He came through it all great,” says Jim. “He had his age and his health going for him. We thought we had beaten it.” Unfortunately, that was not the case. Follow-up blood results led to the discovery of additional fast-growing tumors. Jeffrey, who always took care of everyone else according to Jim, was now the recipient of great care from an oncology team, volunteers, and ultimately, hospice. Through it all, Jeffrey maintained his wit and infectious personality; bonding with caregivers, and winning hearts. He died on his favorite holiday—Halloween, in 2014.

“We want to do something for the caregivers at Hospice of Dayton because of what they do every day,” Jim explains. “We want to give back because that was who Jeffrey was. He touched the lives of so many people. He made everyone feel special. I see those same qualities in hospice caregivers. Being part of this event helps keep his legacy alive.”

Fourteen salons are participating in the 2015 **Outrageous 2 HAIRSHOW**. To hear all of their stories and why they participate, go to www.hospiceofdayton.org/hairshow.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
HairShow, Luncheon, Silent Auction, and the Rubi Girls
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
The Ponitz Center
Sinclair Community College

Get your ticket today at hospiceofdayton.org Presenting sponsors: LEVIN FAMILY FOUNDATION, PREMIER HEALTH



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Kent Anderson, President/CEO
Lori Poelking-Igel, Interim Executive Director, Hospice of Dayton Foundation

Founded in 1978, Hospice of Dayton had served more than 109,000 families. Send suggestions and comments to Lori Poelking-Igel. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call us at 937-258-5537 or visit www.hospiceofdayton.org and choose the newsletter link and follow instructions for removal. Copyright © 2015 Ohio’s Hospice, Inc. All rights reserved.



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JOURNEY

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“She was a Stradivarius of an airplane...” Colonel Robert Morgan, pilot of the Memphis Belle

By Vicky Forrest, Media Content Editor



Left to right: Valentine Baab and grandson Craig.

When Valentine Baab was an airman serving in Great Britain, he became a life-long World War II buff. He was a firefighter stationed at the same base where General Curtis LeMay had commanded the iconic B-17 airplanes critical to World War II success. Valentine joined Colonel Robert Morgan, pilot of the Memphis Belle, who called the B-17 “a Stradivarius of an airplane.” Valentine dreamed of flying in one of these flying fortresses. This summer, that dream came true.

Valentine and his grandson, Craig, took to the skies as passengers on one of the few remaining B-17s. Only thirteen of the planes remain airworthy, so the flight has historical significance as one of rare opportunity. The two built an incredible memory and shared it with nearly a dozen family members along to document the flight. The outing was a special one, but just one of many Valentine and his grandson have shared.

Valentine and Craig started a weekly ritual years ago of Wednesday breakfast together at Bob Evan’s Restaurant. The two are so close that when the opportunity to fly in a B-17 was presented, Valentine knew immediately he wanted Craig along for the ride. Valentine’s love of adventure and travel has taken him to Germany, Russia and Israel along with Great Britain. It was while on one



of these trips he received the news by email that he had been diagnosed with cancer. The worst part, he says, was having to break the news to his wife, Elizabeth. While that was difficult, Valentine knew she would show strength, as he has always “surrounded himself with strong women and positive people by choice.”

Now in hospice care, Valentine is making every moment count with his family that includes four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren – one of them a grandson who recently soared the skies with the grandfather he adores in one more great adventure, making one more wonderful memory.

JOURNEY

- HairShow.....September 25 (Ponitz Center)
- Remembrance Walk.....October 24 (Hospice of Dayton Campus)
- Cosmic Bowl.....November 15 (Poelking-Woodman Lanes)

Save the Dates! The success of Hospice of Dayton’s signature events is credited largely to our sponsors and individuals who contribute financial support. Thank you!

FALL EVENTS 2015

Improvements Abound on our Campus

By Kent Anderson, President/CEO



Kent Anderson, President/CEO

The Hospice of Dayton campus is changing for the better. We are moving our entry to make it much easier and safer for families and visitors to enjoy our campus. We are landscaping the grounds of our new Yeck Family Grief Counseling Center so it is welcoming to those who need to heal from loss. We are shoring up our pond and planting trees to prevent further erosion. We want our grounds to bring peace to the

patients and families who come to us for care. We thank you for your patience while this work continues. We promise the result will preserve nature and be a beautiful, healing space for patients and families.

Hospice Volunteers are Appreciated by all of us...and the IRS!

By Janice L. Culver, CPA, Member, Hospice of Dayton Foundation Board of Director's



Janice L. Culver, CPA
Member, Hospice of Dayton
Foundation Board of Director's

It was a delight to attend the Hospice of Dayton Volunteer Recognition dinner and meet the dedicated people who volunteer hundreds and even thousands of hours to care for and celebrate the lives of patients and their families. These volunteers have heard a calling and generously give their time to help others. Not one person told me they do it for any financial reward...but the federal government wants to show appreciation for volunteers with tax deductions for charitable expenses if they itemize on their tax return.

The most overlooked deduction is charitable mileage; the deduction is 14 cents a mile. Mileage would include driving from your home to the campus on Wilmington Ave. or to anywhere you are providing services for Hospice of Dayton. Someone in Centerville who drives 7 miles each way once a week would have a deduction over \$ 100.

Similarly, other expenses for charitable work are deductible. This includes parking, postage, stationery and other purchases made to accomplish the mission of Hospice of Dayton.

Is there special reporting on your tax return? No, you simply enter the deduction on Schedule A of your tax return as a charitable contribution describing it as charitable mileage or expenses for the named charity.

The only requirement is that you substantiate your deduction by keeping records of the miles driven or receipts for expenses. Most people keep a small notebook or diary in their car and make a note at the end of each day of miles driven and expenses incurred. The IRS expects the information to be kept up to date throughout the year, and under all circumstances, must be compiled by the time you file your tax return. If your expenses exceed \$ 250 in a year, Hospice of Dayton will provide an acknowledgement for you to retain in your files in the unlikely event you are audited by the IRS.

Thank you, Hospice volunteers, for all you do each and every day. We truly appreciate you and so does the IRS!

It's Okay to Cry at Camp Pathways

By Jonathan Haag, LISW-S, ATR-BC

As the Camp Pathways Director, it is gratifying to look over the camper surveys now that all the camp supplies are packed away until next year. The survey comments from the campers are overwhelmingly positive and let us know that we have met the essential goal of aiding in their grief recovery. These are some of their comments:

"I'm more emotional than I thought. I can open up to more people and all feelings are ok."

"This is a great program for grief. This helped me a whole lot and I had much fun! Thank you for having this camp available to us."

"Everyone's grief is different but we all experience it all together as a team."

"That it is ok to show your feeling... it is ok to cry."

"It helped me a lot and I met good people with the same problem I have."

"I learned that everyone grieves in his or her own way and that you are never alone."



Camp Pathways 2015 marked the twenty-second year that Hospice of Dayton has provided this unique experience to children ages 7-17. This overnight, three day camp experience held at beautiful Joy Outdoor Education Center provides grieving children with supervised outdoor activities such as swimming, fishing, canoeing, a climbing wall and ropes courses. Interspersed with the outdoor activities are grief support activities as well as campfire programs, art groups and a memorial service for campers and families. Over 60 adult staff and volunteers coordinated this grief camp experience for 54 children and teens. As one camper stated, "I love this camp and I want to come again! Thanks for having me!"

Camp Pathways is paid 100% by community donors. If you would like more information on how you can sponsor a child or support Camp Pathways, please contact Hospice of Dayton Foundation at 937-258-5537.



20% Off

20% Off Entire Purchase for You and a Friend!

Visit one of our Heirlooms Shoppes with one friend. The two visitors may receive one 20% discount on their entire sale. Coupon must be submitted during purchase. Red ticket items are excluded.

This discount is not good with any other discounts.
Expires 9/30/15.

Heirlooms
Shoppes Benefiting Hospice of Dayton

A Noble Journey to Ecuador

By Jan Tillinger, RN, CHPN, BSN, RN Excellence Educator

Dr. Schmitz and eight current or former employees of Hospice of Dayton joined 39 other people spending a week of their vacation this past February to provide medical care in Quito, Ecuador. Talking about the experience, Dr. Schmitz's eyes brightened and her voice lilted as she recalled this third trip that she has taken with her husband.

A small Christian & Missionary Alliance Church in Quito provided room, board, and transportation through Ecuadorian host families from the church. Seventy-five percent of the families in the congregation participated in the effort. Foreign medical teams are always popular and welcome, therefore people gathered early and often waiting for hours to receive care from the medical doctors, nurses, optometrists, physical therapists, lay pharmacist and non-medical personnel.

The team saw about 3,000 patients over the four days of the clinic. The patients presented with a variety of illnesses and complaints and the triage area directed them to appropriate care. Because the group from Dayton has returned several years in a row, trust has been built up between the US doctors and the medical personnel in Quito. In fact, several Ecuadorian doctors have come to the USA to tour Hospice of Dayton and other medical facilities in the area. The lead physician in Quito is a pediatrician named Gabriel and he worked the clinic as well as continuing hours at his own practice. This dedication has caused other local physicians to step up and serve their own community, and follow-up clinics now occur once or twice a month.

Dr. Schmitz says the greatest thing that she brings back to Hospice of Dayton from this time in Ecuador is the realization that Western medications are not the only way to treat some patients. Instead, listening, holding someone's hands, and building relationships can be the most important tools that we possess. While she was able to alleviate some medical issues, the people around her on this trip reminded her that being willing to give of yourself, having a bigger world view, making family a priority, and showing that you care gives hope to those around you.



Members Caring in South America

Nine out of 50 members of a recent medical mission team from Fairhaven Church were current or former employees of Hospice of Dayton. The group was serving people in need in Quito Ecuador. The mission group saw almost 3,000 patients and provided medical, dental, physical therapy and optometry services.

Pictured from left to right: Dr. Tim MacLean, Dr. Wendy Schmitz, Peggy Benysek, Colleen Postel, Viola Grove-Merritt, Carolyn Karolyi, Becky Collins, Molly Magee, John Smith. The picture is taken at the equator.