

A WALK TO REMEMBER

BY CHAPLAIN ERIC D. HOLLEY

This story is about two men who found each other through their acts of service, one for his country the other for his fellow man.

In the 1960s David joined the U.S. Marines Corps while I, as a first grader, answered a questionnaire indicating I wanted to be a minister. On September 16, 2011, our individual walks brought us together as we met at the Dayton International Airport to board a flight to Washington D.C. together. We were part of the Honor Flight, which enables veterans to visit Washington D.C. monuments honoring their service. On that early Friday morning, we boarded. David was the only Vietnam veteran aboard among 34 other former soldiers. I was serving as a hospice chaplain and escort on the trip. David was decked out in his Marine Corps shirt and hat, and was presented an Honor Flight T-shirt to wear for the day. David had never been to D.C., much less viewed the memorials. He expressed mixed emotions about seeing the wall for the first time. I assured David I would be with him the whole way.

Our plane touched down at the Baltimore Airport and we boarded a bus to D.C. Our first stop was the WW II memorial where David had his picture taken by the Ohio name plate. We took several photos of inscriptions on walls and decorations at the memorial. I took a break and when I looked around David had stepped out of his wheelchair and crossed two streets in an effort to get closer to the

Jefferson Memorial. He laughed uncontrollably when I caught up with him and threatened to put him on a leash. We boarded the bus and traveled to the Iwo Jima memorial. This Marine swelled with pride as he stood beside the Marine Corps insignia as I took several photos of him with the memorial in the background. We then boarded the bus & drove to the Air Force memorial for lunch. We stood at the memorial in awe, looking at our nation's capital and for the first time seeing sites we had previously only seen on TV. Just then I saw my Marine looking off to the left at a portion of the National Cemetery. This happened to be the section where several African-American soldiers were buried in unmarked graves. David knew the story and shared it with me. The sadness in his eyes and the look of betrayal by his own country was nearly too much to bear.

We then boarded the bus and made our way to the Vietnam Memorial. Anxiety had reached its apex in David's mind by this time and everyone else on the bus shared the sense that "This is his memorial." We exited the bus and David sat in his wheelchair. A nurse accompanied us to capture the visit on camera. Our first stop was a station containing what appeared to be a combined phonebook of L.A. and New



York City when in fact it was an alphabetical list of those who sacrificed their all for their country. Tears began to fall as we looked for David's friend, but could not find him because nicknames are not recorded. We turned and walked to the entrance where three soldiers in jungle gear were immortalized. I snapped a shot of David in front of the three statues and had he been dressed in his jungle gear he could have been the fourth man in the memorial. Then we headed for "The Wall."

As we approached the ramp leading down to the wall on our left, David softly said, "Oh my God!"

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TITLE NEEDED



BY KENT ANDERSON
PRESIDENT/CEO

As the political process for electing a president picks up steam in the months ahead, attention is likely to focus again on healthcare reform. We believe the experience of Hospice of Dayton can offer significant insights into possible solutions in healthcare reform for our country and community.

As a community-based healthcare provider, we cost-effectively deliver services that improve patient outcomes while reducing unnecessary patient suffering. With quality of life as the focus of our care, we offer patients options for care choice and assist in the transition of care during the course of a debilitating disease. Our expertise enables us to anticipate and address potential complications to reduce hospital stays and emergency room visits. We have leveraged technology but continue to place a high premium

on high-touch patient care, addressing the individual physical symptoms of patients, along with emotional and spiritual needs. By emphasizing quality improvement and training to streamline our operations and ensure that every dollar spent yields better patient outcomes, we have achieved outstanding standards of care that are benchmarked by other organizations. We are proud of these accomplishments and the fact that they are realized in a challenging economic environment and atmosphere of declining reimbursement.

Dayton is recognized as a center for invention and innovation. Hospice of Dayton continues to solidify that legacy with innovative approaches to care and solutions that can model a way forward for the larger healthcare debate that will soon take center stage.

OUTCOMES MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

BY BRENDA C. HUMFLEET,
PRESIDENT, HOSPICE OF
DAYTON FOUNDATION AND VICE
PRESIDENT, HOSPICE OF DAYTON



Owen lost his Dad. He lost his grandparents a year earlier. Fears of losing his Mother caused him to have night terrors and it impacted his grades at school. Our grief counselor worked with Owen and his Mother. Today, Owen is enjoying the second grade and his dreams have switched to soccer and puppies.

Last year, Hospice of Dayton, through our Pathways of Hope Grief Support Services, served 16 area schools with 52 group sessions and 35 one-on-one sessions for youth. Owen and

121 other youngsters were served through school-based counseling sessions conducted by our caring and competent staff. Seventeen additional children received classroom-style education related to ways to deal with grief.

In total, in 2011, more than 3,000 counseling sessions benefitted area men and women facing the heartbreak and adjustments associated with the loss of a loved one. Fifty-nine percent of those were the loved ones of patients we served. The remaining 31% were from the general community who had suffered the sudden loss of a loved one who was not a patient at Hospice of Dayton.

Individuals from all eight counties we serve benefitted from grief support services in 2011 and these services were made possible through the generosity of our donors.

***"IT TAKES A NOBLE PERSON TO
PLANT A SEED FOR A TREE THAT
WILL ONE DAY PROVIDE SHADE
TO THOSE WHOM ONE MAY
NEVER MEET."***

— Dr. David Trueblood

A WALK TO REMEMBER *Continued from page 1*

This was it, David's first time at the wall viewing the names of his fallen brothers. A flood of emotions overwhelmed him. David began to cry, so I placed my hands on his shoulders and encouraged him saying, "You're doing great Marine. You're doing great." As we approached the half way point David asked me to stop. He stood himself up unassisted, placed his left hand on the wall and wept. I was overwhelmed as I watched this weakened man have an unparalleled experience standing on his own, unassisted, connecting emotionally and spiritually with the some of the soldiers he served with some 40 years ago. I was focused on being with David in several ways and then I noticed many others were with David as well. The sound of camera clicks and flashes were heard all around him.

David sat down in his wheelchair and said, "I'm ready" and we began

making our way up the ramp of the east wall. We were nearly at the end when a man and his wife stopped us. The man reached out his right hand to David and said, "Welcome home, Marine, welcome home." The man's wife knelt down in front of David looking him in the eyes and said, "Thank you for all you've done for this country."

Upon exiting the plane on our return flight to Dayton we were greeted by a line of active Air Force men and women in uniform welcoming us home. An atmosphere of humility settled on each veteran and many of them became a puddle of tears as they were overwhelmed with the crowd of well wishers congratulating them and thanking them. Several people sought out David as if they knew he was the only Vietnam vet and lavished their appreciation on him. A local ROTC unit was standing at attention holding the flags of the United States, the State of Ohio, and the Marine Corps and just when we thought it couldn't get any

better, an announcement came over the sound system indicating the colors will now be presented as we recite the pledge of allegiance. I watched men who had previously been unable to walk force themselves to stand, place their hands over their hearts, and with pride and through tears say, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. And to the republic for which it stands. One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." No more could be said to describe the pride and humility present simultaneously.

I couldn't seem to stop myself from asking David, "Was this a good trip for you or did it stir up too many hurtful memories?" Without hesitation David said, "Oh no! This was great. Seeing the memorials, having strangers thank me and welcome me home has brought me closure that I never had or ever thought I'd find. No, no, this was a trip I'll never, ever forget."

It was a trip I will never forget either.

Providing superior care and superior services in honor of the lives of the patient and families we have the privilege of serving is our Mission. Through your generosity, Hospice of Dayton is able to provide our patients and their loved ones with care, peace of mind, and joy in things that go far beyond the minimum standards for hospice care, as set forth in the Medicare Hospice Benefit.

Your gifts to Hospice of Dayton transform the end of life experience for our patients and their loved ones. In 2011, nearly \$2.5 million donor dollars were invested in the following programs benefiting those who chose us as their care provider: Pathways of Hope: \$753,000; Complementary Therapies (massage; light; music, etc.): \$846,000; Palliative Care: \$537,000; and Indigent Care for those who financial resources were exhausted prior to becoming a hospice patient: \$346,000.

REMEMBER SOMEONE YOU LOVE

The Hospice of Dayton is the only non-profit hospice to offer a 'Memory Walkway' that encircles our beautiful scenic grounds. This Walkway features bricks purchased in memory of loved ones or as gifts to honor someone still living. The bricks are engraved and are installed at a dedication ceremony held twice a year for family and friends. Several options are available, from a small brick placed in the border of the walkway to large, circular overlooks placed intermittently throughout the walkway.

For more information on Hospice of Dayton bricks and memorials, please contact Marsha Bernard at 937.256.4490 or mbernard@hospiceofdayton.org.



COUPLE MAKES BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER

Susan taught school for many years. At 73 years old, Susan became a Hospice of Dayton patient. She had experienced a rapid decline in health following a colon cancer diagnosis. Her husband of 55 years was primary caregiver, but had his own health and mobility issues that made it difficult for him to assist her the way he wanted. When our occupational therapist visited Susan for the first time, her husband expressed feelings of guilt and sadness at seeing his bedridden wife and not being able to take care of her as he had always promised he would. Our occupational therapist and team of nurses and personal care specialists provided assistance.

As her final weeks approached, Susan needed more intensive assistance with disease-specific pain control and severe nausea. With hospice and palliative care-certified physicians available around the clock, the best choice for her symptom management was for Susan to be transferred temporarily to our Hospice House located on Wilmington Avenue. When asked what was important to her



for maximum quality of life, Susan hesitated for a moment but then said she would like to see the Hospice of Dayton great room where there was a piano and she wanted to visit with her family there. Our occupational therapist obtained a wheelchair and accompanied her to the great room. Our occupational therapist also re-educated the family on the bed-to-wheelchair transfer technique, so they, too, could do it safely when Susan returned to her home several days later.

"There is a beautiful baby grand piano in our patient and family great room. It was generously donated by Jobe and

Julie Morrison. Susan's eyes danced with joy as her fingers danced across the keyboard. As she played each of her favorite songs, her husband's

eyes glistened with tears of appreciation. Together they reminisced about experiences they shared," stated Angelene Moore, OTR./L. Susan's husband said, "I thought I'd never again hear my wife play the piano." Susan's daughter took photos and then she began singing along with her mother. "What a wonderful life celebration," said Angelene Moore, our occupational therapist.

Community support to Hospice of Dayton gave Susan and her family the opportunity to experience a quality of life beyond what they realized was even possible. All complementary therapies are funded through community support. In 2011, more than \$800,000 of community support was used to enable families, like Susan's, to continue to experience the best possible quality of life under the circumstances until the last day of their time together. Other complementary therapies which benefit our patients include: music, light, massage, and art therapy.

TREE AUCTION BENEFITS HOSPICE OF DAYTON

The twenty beautifully decorated holiday trees on display at Brookdale Place Assisted Living of Englewood will continue to cast a light much longer than this holiday season. The trees are up for auction to the highest bidder, with proceeds earmarked to benefit patients and families of Hospice of Dayton.

The tree auction is an annual event for Brookdale Place, with various local charities designated as beneficiary since the tradition started five years ago. Brookdale Executive Director

Tammy Wick, says their forest of trees has grown over the years. "Our Festival of Trees Gala is open to the public, and is attended by nearly 200 family members, professionals and visitors. Every year about half of the high bidders on trees choose to donate the tree back to us, so we have expanded our display over the years." The trees are donated and decorated by local businesses with silent auction bids accepted until December 15, 2011.

Proceeds from the tree auction will support patient and family services at

Hospice of Dayton, the non-profit hospice care service that has served the Miami Valley for over 30 years. Hospice of Dayton provides care in private homes, assisted and extended living facilities and area hospitals, as well as in two Hospice House locations. With a mission to celebrate the lives of patients and to provide superior care and superior services, Hospice of Dayton serves over 4,000 patients annually.

OUR PHYSICIANS ARE SPECIALISTS

BY APRIL BROWN,
PUBLICATIONS AND CONTENT
SPECIALIST

Less than 3,000 physicians are certified in hospice and palliative care nationally. All of the full-time physicians at Hospice of Dayton have completed a Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship. Six are Board Certified in Hospice and Palliative Medicine, while one is awaiting her 2012 Board examination date. Their expertise centers on achieving quality of life while addressing physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of patients and families throughout the course of the disease, the dying process, and beyond for the family.

Hospice of Dayton is known for the excellence in medical care and supportive care we provide for our patients. This excellence could not be achieved without our remarkable team of physicians and advanced practice nurses. Each highly qualified member of the medical care team plays a pivotal role in the care process, exceeding the expectations of patients and families with their

skills, experience and dedication to excellence.

The Hospice House team is comprised of seven full-time medical directors and an advanced practice nurse. The team is led by Dr. Ruth Thomson, who serves as Vice President for Medical Care. Dr. Thomson oversees the entire medical care team for Hospice of Dayton, ensuring that all physicians and nurses are well educated and have the tools they need to work the most effectively at patient's bedsides.

Our physicians and advance practice nurse each act as an integral part of the interdisciplinary team. Within the Hospice House, our physicians

tend to the daily medical care of patients while providing Care Plan Oversight, wherein the doctor meets with the interdisciplinary team to evaluate each patient's plan of care, and makes adjustments as needed. Each doctor provides medications for our patients, diligently examines if any medication adjustments are needed and prescribes specific support therapies (occupational, respiratory, massage, etc.). Though each of our doctors spends time working with patients in our Hospice Houses, Dr. Wendy Schmitz, Dr. Rana Patel, Dr. Anne Reddy and the newest addition to our team of physicians, Dr. Anna Zivkovich, work primarily in the Hospice House. Dr. Jules Sherman and Dr. Chirag Patel also provide patient care in the Hospice House, but serve a primary role supervising our palliative care patients.

Our advance practice nurse, Carolyn Karolyi, works in collaboration with a physician for each patient and performs many of the same functions as the physician, practicing solely at the Hospice of Dayton Hospice House.

CUTLINE IDENTIFYING PEOPLE IN PHOTO



7TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

June 11, 2011

Sycamore Creek Country Club

SPONSORED BY [Merrill Lynch logo]

The Hospice of Dayton Foundation and Merrill Lynch's Schade Team proudly present the 7th Annual Golf Classic on Monday, June 11, 2012 at Sycamore Creek Country Club in Springboro, Ohio.

This popular fundraiser begins at 11:00 a.m. with registration and lunch, followed by a Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. and an awards banquet beginning at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$250.00 per golfer and registration provides each golfer lunch, dinner and a swag bag full of great golf gifts. Other event highlights include a Hole Competition, a Betting Hole and Silent Auction. All

proceeds of this event benefit Hospice of Dayton and those facing end-of-life challenges.

For more information, or to register as a golfer, please contact Marsha Bernard at 937-256-4490 or email her at mbernard@hospiceofdayton.org. You may also visit www.hospiceofdayton.org. Please note that registration is limited.

For information on how your company can support this event, please contact Amanda Burks at 937-312-4641 or email her at aburks@hospiceofdayton.org.

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PREPARATION FOR 2012 CAMP PATHWAYS

JONATHAN HAAG, LISW-S, ATR-BC
PATHWAYS OF HOPE



Every year about this time, I mentally and emotionally gear up preparing for Camp Pathways. Although there is a host of tasks and details, the thing I most enjoy about preparing for camp is telling families, children and teens that have never gone before all about it. I say something like, "Camp Pathways is a wonderful and life changing event that cannot be duplicated in any other way. It is the one weekend of this year where you can have both big fun and the opportunity to pay attention to your grief in meaningful ways. And as good as that is, perhaps the most priceless aspect of camp is the opportunity to hear the stories from other kids your own age and know that you are not the only one going through these difficulty experiences and painful feelings. All of this is orchestrated by a group of compassionate adult volunteers and staff that give the hopeful message that healing from grief does happen." It really is a wonderful part of my work to invite children and teens to an event that I know makes a positive, healing impact and does not disappoint them.

Camp Pathways offers over 50 campers summer-camp fun along with opportunities to explore, share, and gain understanding of their grief experiences.

This year's camp is scheduled to begin on Friday morning, June 22 and will end on Sunday afternoon, June 24. Supervised outdoor group activities such as swimming, fishing, canoeing, a climbing wall and ropes courses provide fun and healthy distractions. Grief group support activities, evening campfires, art, music, and a memorial service provide opportunities to pay attention to and express grief.

As has been the case for several years, Camp Pathways will be held at the beautiful Joy Outdoor Education Center in Warren County. Pre-registration for camp is now underway and is open to children between the ages of 7 and 17 who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or other loved ones. Please contact Pathways of Hope at (937) 258-4991 for information and registration materials.

Professionally-licensed bereavement staff from Pathways of Hope, a Hospice of Dayton nurse, Chaplain and Music Therapists, and trained volunteers lead activities with age specific groups.



While we have been blessed with a large, committed group of outstanding volunteers who return year after year, we continue to look for new volunteers, especially Adult Buddies for our campers. Interested in how you can help? Please contact Pathways of Hope at (937) 258-4991 for information about opportunities to be part of this life-changing experience.

PATHWAYS BREAKAWAY BIG SUCCESS

Pathways Breakaway sponsored by Pathways of Hope was held this past January on Martin Luther King Day at the Vandalia Recreation Center. Going through this daylong event in age specific groups, 34 kids enjoyed grief activity groups utilizing discussion, art, music, and a balloon launch as well as fun activities such as swimming, gym games and a climbing wall.



LET US RECOGNIZE YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION

Our Legacy Society honors couples and individuals who have generously named Hospice of Dayton as a beneficiary in their estate plans, such as a:

- Will
- Trust
- Retirement Account - IRA
- Insurance Policy

Since these gifts are realized after the donor's lifetime, our Legacy Circle was created to thank donors for their intentions. Membership in The Legacy Circle is based solely on the desire to leave something to benefit Hospice of Dayton through estate planning.

No minimum amount or formal documentation of your future estate gift is required. However, if you would like to provide this documentation, please be assured that it will be kept in a confidential place.

BENEFITS OF BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE HOSPICE OF DAYTON LEGACY CIRCLE...

- Most importantly, your help will ensure the highest quality of physical, emotional and spiritual care for families and individuals of all ages faced with life threatening and life limiting illness.
- You can serve as an inspiration to others and have confidence in know your legacy will continue to touch the lives of many.
- You will be our honored guest at all Legacy Circle events. These annual events provide the opportunity to meet other supporters and learn how your support is helping our programs and services.
- You will receive recognition in the Hospice of Dayton Annual Community Report.
- You will get special recognition at Hospice of Dayton Hospice House or Lorelei's Place and Hospice of Butler and Warren Counties Hospice House.

I have included Hospice of Dayton in my estate plans. Please recognize me as a member of The Legacy Circle.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name(s) as you wish to be included in The Legacy Circle Society _____

(Please Print)

☐ I/We would like to be included in The Legacy Circle, but would prefer to be listed as anonymous.

Please return this form to:
Hospice of Dayton Foundation, 324 Wilmington Avenue, Dayton, OH 45420

Phone: 937-258-5537 | www.hospiceofdayton.org

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Kent Anderson, President/CEO,
Hospice of Dayton

Brenda Humfleet, President,
Hospice of Dayton Foundation

Founded in 1978, Hospice of Dayton has served over 60,000 families. Send suggestions and comments to Lori Poelking-Igel, Director, Leadership Giving. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call us at (937) 258-5537 or log onto our website, www.hospiceofdayton.org, and choose the newsletter link and follow instructions for removal.



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