



# impressions

LEGACIES OF LOVE AND FINGERPRINTS ON THE WORLD

## A NIGHT ON THE TOWN

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# MAKING IT HAPPEN

## Program fulfills patients' special wishes



Through its Make it Happen® program, Senior Independence Hospice is helping to fulfill patients' life-enhancing wishes. Here are some of the recent events that have brought moments of joy and meaning to some very special patients:



**ON THE COVER:** *Hospice patient Glenna Hartman and her husband, George, enjoy a limousine ride as part of her Make it Happen® wish.*

**LEFT:** *Glenna Hartman poses with Ragtime Rick and the Chefs of Dixieland. Her wish of seeing them perform one more time came true thanks to Senior Independence Hospice's Make it Happen® program.*

## A night *on the town*

Glenna Hartman wanted to hear her favorite jazz artist, Ragtime Rick, one more time. So Senior Independence Hospice made it happen!

Glenna and her husband, George, were picked up at their home in a limousine and taken to the Sodbuster Bar in Sylvania, Ohio. Rick opened the door when Glenna arrived, and she

threw her arms around him, giving him a big hug.

Glenna requested peppermint schnapps, and she and George clinked their glasses together in celebration. They dined on chicken wings and a burger at a table with white linen, red carnations and lit candles. Glenna clapped and bobbed along to the music and delighted in the stories that Rick added between songs.

Before Glenna went home, she said, "This is more than I could have ever imagined!"

The owner of the bar said of Glenna, "When she walked in she was filled with spirit; I would have never guessed she was a hospice patient." And for a few moments, Glenna didn't feel like a patient, which is what the Make it Happen® program is all about. ●



## A special birthday bash

Ruth Smith's hospice team recently helped her family friend Janet throw a party for Ruth's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday at OPRS' Mount Pleasant Retirement Village, where Ruth is a resident.

Janet brought Ruth's favorite chocolate chip cookies to share with everyone, and hospice volunteer Jane Miller brought her harp to play for entertainment.

Jane played "Happy Birthday," as well as some of Ruth's favorite hymns and other popular songs, while Ruth and the other residents sang along. ●

## Colorful wish comes true

Hospice patient Franklin Bolinger is an artist.

He needed more art supplies and wanted to pick them out himself, so the local hospice team arranged to take him to his favorite art store, Blick.

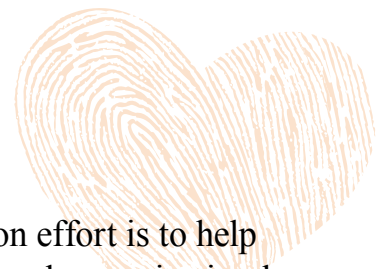
Franklin came ready with a list of supplies he needed to pick up, and he enjoyed exploring the store. His daughter was able to join him for the outing, and the group enjoyed lunch together at one of Franklin's favorite restaurants after the trip to the store. ●

**BELOW:** *Hospice patient Franklin Bolinger had one simple wish – to pick out some new, much-needed art supplies so he could continue living his passion of being an artist. Thanks to Senior Independence Hospice and the Make it Happen® program, Franklin's wish came true.*



Would you like to help wishes come true for hospice patients like Glenna, Ruth and Franklin? You can – by making a charitable gift in support of the Make it Happen® program. Use the enclosed envelope to send your gift today!

# In the words of a *hospice nurse*



“A peaceful death is a wonderful experience,” says Julie Maynard (*pictured above, right*), who has been a nurse with OPRS for 25 years.

After 18 years as unit manager of the health care center at OPRS’ Westminster-Thurber Community, Julie switched to the organization’s Senior Independence Hospice division in 2006.

As a hospice nurse, Julie’s patients may be in medical facilities or in private residences. “Hospice can be provided to anyone, anywhere,” she said.

On a typical visit, Julie goes through procedures like

checking vital signs, listening to lung and bowel sounds and noting symptom changes, like shortness of breath, which might not have been there on an earlier visit. “A big part of what we do is pain and symptom management,” Julie explains.

Julie might spend an hour or longer – whatever time is needed by that patient at that time, and far more time than a nurse in a medical facility would likely be able to spend. This extra time can be a blessing because, as Julie points out, “You want to get to the point where people feel comfortable talking to you about their problems.”

The extra time also gives Julie the opportunity to educate the patient and his or her family about what is to come, and that information can make the final days of life far more peaceful. “The more they understand what will happen, the easier it can be for them to deal with it when it comes,” she shares.

Julie says she has been impressed over the years with the dedication, loyalty and hard work she has seen from caregivers. Part of her

education effort is to help caregivers learn – in simple terms – what to do. “Family members do a lot of hands-on, heavy-duty care,” she points out. “They don’t need medical jargon. You have to be able to take all of that medical ‘stuff’ and make it into something simple and easy to understand.”

Like other hospice nurses, Julie specializes in being involved when patients pass away. She says, “You really have to be able to cope with your own emotions while comforting others.”

How does a hospice nurse cope with stress and grief? For Julie, it’s her faith. “I have a strong faith in God. He truly keeps me sane,” she shares. Julie’s family also helps to keep her grounded. She and her husband have two adult children, and the couple lives in the farmhouse where her husband grew up.

Family, faith and the farm are Julie’s mainstays, and she appreciates the way her job helps her live a life of helping others. “I feel very blessed to do what I do,” she says. ●

# DOUBLE-DUTY DONATION

Gift can help hospice *and* you

More and more donors are discovering the benefits of a type of charitable donation that can help both Senior Independence Hospice and themselves.

The unique giving instrument that makes this possible is called a charitable gift annuity, or CGA.

## HOW IT WORKS

A CGA is essentially a contract you make with the OPRS Foundation (a subsidiary of OPRS and Senior Independence's sister company) in which:

- You agree to make an irrevocable charitable gift to hospice;
- The OPRS Foundation, in turn, agrees to make fixed payments to you for each year of your lifetime (you can also have the payments benefit others, like your loved ones);
- The portion of your gift that remains after your lifetime (and that of your beneficiary, if applicable) supports hospice.

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A CGA can help you in several ways, including:

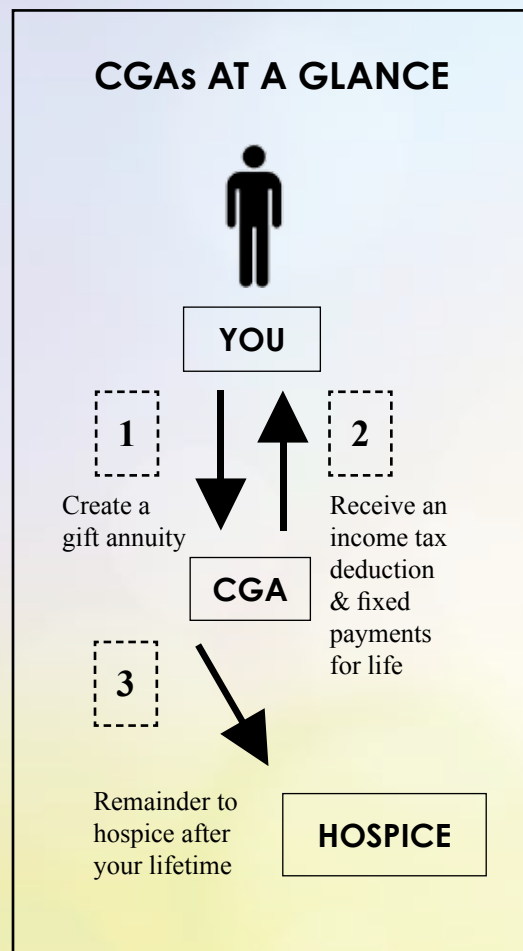
- Providing you with tax-favored payments for life;
- Offering immediate income tax savings (if you itemize);
- Helping you to meet your charitable goals.

## OTHER IMPORTANT DETAILS

The rate of payment is determined by your age at the time of your contribution – the older you are, the higher the rate. The comparison chart at right will help you determine what your rate may be.

## FIND OUT MORE

If you'd like to learn more about a CGA and whether it could be the right gift instrument for you, simply fill out the "I'd like to learn more..." section of the enclosed reply envelope and send it back to us. You can also call Kathie Gannon, director of fund development, at 513-539-6060. Or simply visit the OPRS Foundation website ([www.oprsfoundation.org](http://www.oprsfoundation.org)) and click on the Planned Giving tab to learn about CGAs and other types of gifts. ●



## SAMPLE CGA RATES\*

Your Age	Your Rate
70	5.1%
75	5.8%
80	6.8%
85	7.8%
90+	9.0%

\* These figures are for illustration purposes only and are based on single-life annuities. Rates for two-life annuities are slightly lower, and are available upon request. Rates are recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities, effective January 1, 2012.



# SENIOR INDEPENDENCE HOSPICE SALUTES VETERANS

This past Veterans Day, Senior Independence Hospice teams around the state made a special effort to honor the many hospice patients who served our country. Here are a few of the stories from that special day:

## Celebration honors patient and resident veterans

In conjunction with a Make it Happen® event honoring hospice patient Earl Lynn, Senior Independence Hospice and OPRS' Cape May Retirement Village held a veteran appreciation celebration for Cape May assisted living residents on Nov. 7.

Featured at the program was hospice volunteer Jane Miller, who played her harp for the residents. She played patriotic songs and other favorites, and

everyone was invited to sing along.

All veterans in attendance were presented with flag pins and appreciation letters that featured the Pledge of Allegiance and a special thank-you message for their service.

“Thanks to all who were involved. Mr. Lynn and the other residents really seemed to enjoy themselves,” said a spokesperson. ●

**BELOW:** Hospice patient Earl Lynn shows off the framed thank-you he received during the event.



## Meaningful visits honor vets

The Senior Independence Hospice team in the Central Ohio Region honored 14 hospice patient veterans on Nov. 11. Veteran volunteers assisted the hospice team by visiting each patient at their home and presenting him or her with an honorary card, pin and salute. Of all the visits made that day, two stood out as being especially meaningful:

.....

The wife of patient Gary Ryan was thrilled to know her husband was going to be honored for his service. When hospice team members told her they would be there on Veterans Day, she started to cry and said, “He would be very proud.” Sadly, Gary passed away two days prior to the visit. The team fulfilled its promise, however, and visited Gary’s family on Veterans Day, knowing how important it was for Gary to still be recognized for his service.

.....

Vern Smith was in the dining room of the facility where he lives when the hospice team arrived for his presentation. Vern was surprised by the visit and exclaimed, “This is so nice – I didn’t think anyone cared anymore.” Other residents heard what Vern had said and gave him a round of applause. ●



## Hospice facilitates special trip for caregiver veteran

Bob Helber (*pictured above, far right*) is a U.S. Army veteran, having served from 1948-1969, including overseas tours in Germany, Korea and Japan. Bob was excited to learn about the Honor Flight program, which helps veterans travel to Washington, D.C. – free of charge – to see the WWII and other national memorials.

Though he longed to go, Bob felt it wasn’t possible because of his duties at home. As primary caregiver for his wife, Shirley, a hospice patient, Bob didn’t do much outside the home. In fact, he rarely left the house at all.

Knowing how much this trip would mean to Bob, Senior Independence Hospice stepped in to help. They got an application and sent it in for him; worked with the trip’s sponsor, the Dublin AM Rotary Club, to coordinate the details; arranged for his transportation; and even met him at the airport with welcome home signs when he returned.

During his trip, Bob and one other veteran were taken on a personal tour that included stops at several memorials. Bob raved about their tour guide, Dave, who made their Honor Flight extra special. And thanks to Senior Independence Hospice, Bob was able to set his caregiving duties aside for a day and enjoy the trip he longed to take. ●

# Thank you for your generosity

The following donations were made between September 1, 2013 and November 30, 2013 in support of Senior Independence Hospice. If you believe your name to be omitted or printed in error, please accept our sincerest apologies and call the OPRS Foundation at 1-800-686-7800.

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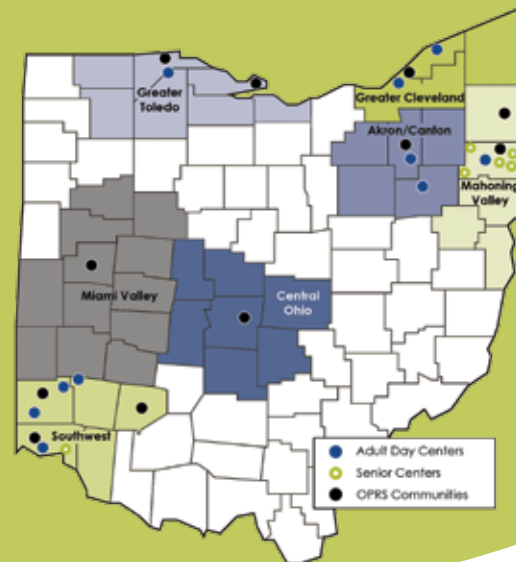
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## GIVING BACK

### Hospice volunteer describes experiences

Debbie Stabile didn't know what to expect when she decided to become a hospice volunteer for Senior Independence's Mahoning Valley Region.

But over the past year, Debbie has found a true calling in volunteering and it has enriched her life.

Debbie says she loves the patients she visits. As she describes, "It's like you become family to them. It makes you feel rewarded; you have closeness in your heart."

Debbie usually spends about 10 hours per week volunteering for hospice. She's found that on most days she might hold a hand, share a smile or speak soothingly.

But other days are more unique, like the one she spent escorting a patient on her Make it Happen® trip to a wild animal park.

This past holiday season was particularly fun for Debbie, as she (*pictured far left*) and other volunteers, wearing Santa hats and bells, delivered poinsettia plants to patients and brought them a bit of holiday cheer.

Debbie is quick to recommend volunteering to others, saying, "This is one of the best things I've ever done in my life." ●

Are you interested in becoming a hospice volunteer? Call your regional office at the number listed above, or fill out the enclosed reply envelope and send it back to us. You can make a difference in the lives of hospice patients and their families!

