

HOSPICE Happenings



WINTER | 2020

VOLUME 39

OUR CARING PROMISE

Our community believes in our mission: To companion the end-of-life journey with skill and compassion. We feel your support in the hours our volunteers spend holding our patients' hands, we hear it in the stories you tell us, and we see it in the generous donations we receive. We rely on our community to help us continue to provide excellent end-of-life care to their friends and loved ones. Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions is committed to the people that we serve. We are determined to be here for you when you need us; this is "Our Caring Promise."

We promise to hire people that believe in the work that we do, people that are genuinely passionate about caring for others through the hardest of times. We promise to make sound decisions to remain financially stable. We promise to ensure that everyone eligible for hospice service experiences end-of-life with dignity and love, regardless of their financial circumstances. We are committed to adapting and changing as our aging population increases. It is "Our Caring Promise" to be here when you need us. Please call us at (307) 577-4832 or visit cwhp.org to learn how you can become part of "Our Caring Promise." 

Our Mission

*To Companion the
End-of-Life Journey
with
Skill and Compassion*

*Central Wyoming Hospice
and Transitions Program*

*Serving Natrona County
and
Converse County*

WISH LIST

PATIENT CARE

- Deep Blue/Ben Gay rub
- Essential Oils: Lavender, citrus and mint scents.
- Short sleeved ladies nightgowns in sizes medium and up to 2X.
- Plain colored men's T-shirts in sizes large, X large, XX large.
- Sip-A-Mug with built-in straw
- Boost (all flavors)

OFFICE SUPPLIES

- Standard Staplers
- White Notebook-sized lined writing pads
- Jumbo paper clips
- Binder clips (small and medium)
- Scissors
- Regular size Post-It-Notes
- Dry Erase Board Cleaner
- Avery 5979 neon labels
- Avery 5266 filing labels
- Reinforced heavy-duty folders
- 2-pocket folders with brads
- Scotch tape

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

- Dish Soap
- Hand Soap (anti-bacterial)
- Disposable cups, plates, bowls, cutlery
- Gallon and Quart Size Zip-Loc type Baggies
- Crock Pot liners

GENERAL SUPPLIES

- AA Batteries
- Paper Towels, Kleenex, toilet paper
- Trash bags (all sizes)
- Clorox wipes
- Bottled Water

SPECIAL

- Various charging cords and USB wall plugs, for use for our families in our Kloefkorn Home. iPhone, iPad, and Android USB-C

The Hughes Family Story

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This is a story of strength, love, power, and choice. It's the story of a family that everyone fell in love with, everywhere they went. It's the story of the Hughes family and their journey through care at Central Wyoming Hospice and Transitions, one they generously want to share with others.

When faced with her diagnosis, Lois, who we came to know as a pillar of strength and compassion, knew what she did and didn't want. "I didn't want to prolong what isn't quality of life. This is my choice," she told us. It was her journey to take the way she wanted, and she said her decision to enter Hospice care was a decision of peace. That's a word she used often.

Her loving husband Harv told us it was important to Lois to surround herself with family and friends. Traditions were carried on in our Kloefkorn Hospice home, with gatherings over food and games, laughter spilling into the halls as they welcomed visitors and told stories.



Harv and Lois

Harv believes the people are the heart of Central Wyoming Hospice "Because of what you ladies, the whole staff, has made of it," he told us. "It's made up of you people, that's what this place is, and without you, it's nothing. Their whole objective is to keep people comfortable, that's the thing they do, and God bless 'em for that. There's nothing more important as far as I'm concerned."

Harv believes it's important that people learn and understand about Hospice care, even before they need it. "There's not a finer bunch of people on earth than the people at Hospice," he said. "They not only know how to take care of people, but they do it, and that's quite amazing. I think that's a beautiful thing."

When you meet Lois's daughter Marnie, you immediately see her mother's strength mirrored in her—the way she talks, the way she carries herself, the way she takes care of business.



Family Gathering

2020 UPCOMING EVENTS For more information call 577-4832

Volunteer Training

March 14th and May 16th

"Til Death Due You Part Book Club

April 27th • "Being Mortal", Atul Gawande • Natrona County Library

Kids Grief Camp

Sessions available in June and July

Memorial Paver Dedication

June 27th • Central Wyoming Hospice

Lois's daughter Marnie sent us this story.

"I will start by saying that I'm eternally grateful for every Hospice team member that our family came in contact with during the 3.5 months of time your team took care of my mom. Every person provided love and compassion for my mom through conversations, a hug, or the simple squeeze of her hand every day. My mom spoke so fondly of each of you and found so much comfort after making the choice to enter hospice care.

There is one moment that will likely never escape my mind. My mom had started to decline rapidly on September 27th. The RN that came on duty that evening was Darci. I still struggle to remember everything about that day and night. But the memory that never seems to leave me is the last 15 minutes of my mom's life.

When Darci came in the room at about 11:45 pm, I was the only one in the room with my mom. Darci took the time to ask me how I was doing or if I needed anything. Then, she addressed my mom as 'Miss Lois' and spoke quietly and calmly to my mom. In those final moments as my mom was leaving this world, Darci continued to hold my mom's hand or keep a hand on her arm and speak quietly to her. I'm not sure what I was expecting in those final minutes, but as I began to fall apart, Darci was supportive of me as well and checking on how I was doing.

While this moment may not be a happy memory, I consider it a deeply personal moment that I'm grateful to have had Darci with my mom and I. In the moments after 12:01am on September 28th, I couldn't let go of my mom's hand and was inconsolable. Darci remained in the room and had a hand on my shoulder. Once our family members arrived and had their time with my mom, Darci was so compassionate and helped us to get through the steps of working with the funeral home pick-up and the final goodbye.

Thank you Darci. I think of you often and feel so grateful you were by mine and my mom's side.
Marnie Prochniak"



Lois with her kids Marnie and Cody



Tree of Love

The night of Lois's death, hundreds of people were gathered at an event to support Central Wyoming Hospice. The program included a video, shown for the first time, telling the moving story of Lois and Harv and their family.

As the people watched that story unfold, they all fell in love a little bit, too.

"It's a sad thing that I had to give Lois up," Harv told us quietly, "but I don't see how I could have done it any nicer than the way it was done. I just think the nurses, the staff, every bit of this place is just, it should be spelled "L..O..V..E" because it is. There's nothing greater than that."

You can find the video of the Hughes family on our website, at cwhp.org/galleries

If you'd like to share how your Hospice journey impacted you, please call us at (307) 577-4832 or email cwhp@cwhp.org. 

CARDS AND LETTERS FROM OUR GRATEFUL HOSPICE FAMILIES...

"Thank you so much for the compassion and caring you gave him throughout his illness and passing. He was in the best of care in your hands, and you made such a difficult and heartbreaking situation so much easier for him and me and the family. Thank you, thank you."

"My brother, myself, and our families agree that the most touching moment we experienced was when Hospice honored our Dad (patient) for his service in the Army. We've always been proud of him for this service, but he was never one that liked a lot of recognition. So, thank you for that! Not only did we appreciate it greatly, we're sure he did as well!"

"On May 31, 2019, my Grandmother came to visit you on her last few days of her life. Her stay with you made an impression on our whole family. The love and compassion shown to our family during this time truly made this time more manageable for us. Thank you for your caring staff and excellent facility."



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Just click
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426 People
in our community
received Hospice care in
2019

WE PROVIDED
MORE THAN
\$185,000
IN CHARITY CARE

WE SERVED
117 CLIENTS
THROUGH OUR
TRANSITIONS
PROGRAM

MORE THAN
1500
people benefitted from our
**GRIEF CARE
SUPPORT**



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