



*Hospice Georgina*  
Sharing The Caring

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# SHARING THE CARING



# WELCOME

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that we welcome you to the 2022-2023 Annual Report. This report serves as a testament to our collective dedication and unwavering commitment to providing care, comfort, and support to individuals facing life-limiting illnesses, their caregivers, and those grieving the loss of a loved one.

Whether you have been a part of our Hospice Georgina family for many years or are just beginning to get to know us, your presence and support mean the world to us. Our mission remains steadfast: to make each day a little brighter for those we serve. Within the pages of this report, we invite you to explore the vital programs and services that Hospice Georgina offers. You will find stories that reflect the incredible impact we've had on the lives of individuals and families in our community. Each statistic and achievement shared here is a testament to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and supporters.

We want you to see the heart behind our work, the compassion that drives us, and the difference we collectively make in the lives of those who need it most. Your involvement, whether through your time, resources, or simply by being a part of our community, strengthens our resolve and inspires us to continue our mission with even greater enthusiasm.

As you delve into this annual report, we hope you gain a deeper understanding of the integral role Hospice Georgina plays in our community. Your presence and support are vital to our success, and we look forward to continuing this journey together, making each day brighter for those in need.

We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support, and we invite you to join us in our shared mission of compassion and care.

## OUR MISSION

Hospice Georgina is a caring community of individuals who provide Quality of Life, Dignity throughout the Journey, and Grief Support to those living with or affected by a life-limiting illness.



# MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you goes out to our dedicated board members, who consistently go above and beyond in their service to Hospice Georgina. Your unwavering commitment, tireless dedication, and the precious time you invest in our organization are invaluable.

Our board members play a pivotal role in steering our mission forward, making strategic decisions, and ensuring the wellbeing of the community we serve. Your passion and dedication are the driving force behind our successes, and we are immensely grateful for your contributions.

As we reflect on the impact of your leadership and dedication, we are reminded of the profound difference you make in the lives of those we care for. Your selfless commitment to our cause is an inspiration to us all.

Once again, thank you for your outstanding service. Your continued support and dedication propel Hospice Georgina toward a brighter future, where we can provide even more compassionate care to those in need. Your efforts are truly appreciated, and we look forward to many more years of collaboration and shared success.

## **2022-2023 Board**

**Board Chair:** Mary Margaret Thorburn

**Past Chair:** Iain Donnell

**Vice-Board Chair:** Carrie Ann Smith

**Secretary:** Judi Carr-Kartash

**Treasurer:** Carrie Ann Smith

### **Board Members**

Freda White

Gayle Clarke

June Scandiffio





# President Report

## Mary Margaret Thorburn

So much has changed in the last 12 months! This time last year, we were still deep into the hybrid delivery model for our programs. The best part about returning to an in person delivery model has been reconnecting with each other! Nothing will ever replace personal contact... We have also learned new ways to respond to individual needs and comfort levels, to help ensure that we are all operating in a safe and responsible manner. COVID, in one form or another, is something that we will have to be managing from this point forward.

We have continued to add new programs in response to the needs of our clients and the talents of our gifted volunteers. The therapy dogs have returned, thanks to the generosity of Partner Dogs Canada.

Financially, we did well this past year. We were able to take advantage of several grants thanks to Laurie's tenacity. Our Catch The Ace endeavour is generating much needed funds for the establishment of a residential Hospice in Georgina as well as an awareness of Hospice Georgina, our available services and programs, and our local needs.

The Board of Directors is extremely proud of our executive Director, Laurie Knapp, and her dedicated staff. Their flexibility and compassion have been the reason that we were able to continue serving our clients and their families throughout such challenging times.

Moving forward, we continue to require additional volunteers to meet the demand of our growing numbers. The government's focus on mental health is much needed. In reality, everything that Hospice Georgina does and stands for, it's about mental health. Please reach out to your friends and neighbours and encourage them to become an active part of the Hospice Georgina's family in whatever ways they can- Sharing the Caring!



# Executive Director

## Laurie Knapp

### **Dear Board of Directors, Staff, Volunteers, and Supporters,**

I am pleased to present the annual report for Hospice Georgina, reflecting on the incredible journey we have undertaken over the past year. As our community continues to grow, so does the demand for our services, and I am proud to say that our team has risen to the challenge with dedication and compassion.

One of the highlights of this year has been our remarkable increase in client referrals. As Georgina expands, the need for hospice care and support has never been more apparent. Our commitment to providing quality end-of-life and grief support remains steadfast, and our services have been sought after by more individuals and families than ever before.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our exceptional staff team, whose tireless efforts have made this year truly exceptional. In particular, I want to acknowledge three outstanding individuals who joined our Hospice Georgina family and have played pivotal roles in our success. Debbie began her journey with us as our Administration Assistant January 2023, and in her role, she has demonstrated not only competence but also genuine warmth and kindness to everyone who crosses our threshold. Debbie's compassionate and welcoming demeanor has made a significant difference in the lives of our volunteers, clients and their families.

Cassandra, our Client Care Coordinator, has also been with us since January, and her impact has been immeasurable. Cassandra takes on the vital responsibility of intakes for home visiting, matching volunteers, and supporting our grief and bereavement clients and grief group. Her heartwarming empathy and dedication to every client's journey exemplify the core values of Hospice Georgina.

Last but certainly not least, Victoria has made an extraordinary contribution to our organization's growth and development. Victoria initially joined us as a volunteer in 2020, and her dedication was so evident that she was offered the role of Program & Community Outreach Coordinator in 2021. In this capacity, Victoria has truly excelled, revamping existing programs and introducing new ones such as the Cancer Support Group, Paint Class, and Senior Days. Her creativity, commitment, and tireless efforts have made a significant impact on the lives of those we serve.

In addition to our remarkable staff, our dedicated volunteers, supporters, and the entire Hospice Georgina community have played an integral role in our success. Together, we have created an environment of care, support, and compassion that is truly changing lives.

As we look forward to the coming year, I am excited about the potential for further growth, the expansion of our services, and the deepening of our community connections. The journey ahead will undoubtedly bring new challenges, but with our incredible team and support of our community, I am confident that we will continue to provide the highest quality care and support in Georgina.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Hospice Georgina, and I am eager to see the positive impact we will continue to make together in the year ahead.

Sincerely,  
Laurie Knapp 😊

# Programs

**Caregiver Support Group:** If you are a caregiver to a loved one, meet others with a similar experience, share and learn about strategies, coping techniques, and local resources.

**Cancer Support Group:** This is an empathetic peer support group where individuals facing the emotional and physical challenges of cancer can come together for support and understanding.

**Coffee & Chats:** Join us with your favourite morning beverage and an hour of socialization. In this program we take a laidback approach of talking about life and wellbeing.

**Creative Therapy:** The purpose of the Creative Therapy program is to provide clients with a creative outlet to express their feelings, thoughts, and emotions.

**Day Hospice:** This group is open to any adult living with a life-limiting illness or chronic condition, who would enjoy meeting others who may understand their experiences. During this program, participants have a chance to socialize, participate in activities, listen to experts speak on important topics, and have lunch together.

**Drop-In Grief Group:** Participants may attend when they are able without having to commit to each session. It might be more difficult for those who are newly grieved, yet all are welcome to attend. (Virtual only, Zoom)

**Fun & Games:** Light hearted, friendly card and board games to play with friends and acquaintances. Beginners welcome.

**Grief Support:** If you are experiencing a loss of a loved one, our trained staff and volunteers provide individual support. (Office visits & phone calls)

**Guest Speakers:** Various important topics related to health and aging.

**Individual Support:** Trained volunteers provide non-medical support through conversation, playing games, silence, having a cup of tea, or providing respite to a tired caregiver. A volunteer is able to visit in the client's home, long-term care facility, retirement community, other accommodations, or phone calls. (Home visits & phone calls)

**Meditation:** These mindfulness meditation sessions are fun reflective classes, promoting balance and calm, and managing loneliness and stress.

**Paint Class:** A guided paint class for relaxation and fun.

**Reiki & Reflexology:** Reiki is a form of energy healing. Reflexology looks at the hands and the feet as the windows to the body. By appointment only.

**Walk & Talk:** Join us at various locations around Sutton for a light stroll, easy chats, and getting out to enjoy nature.

# June Callwood Award For Outstanding Volunteers

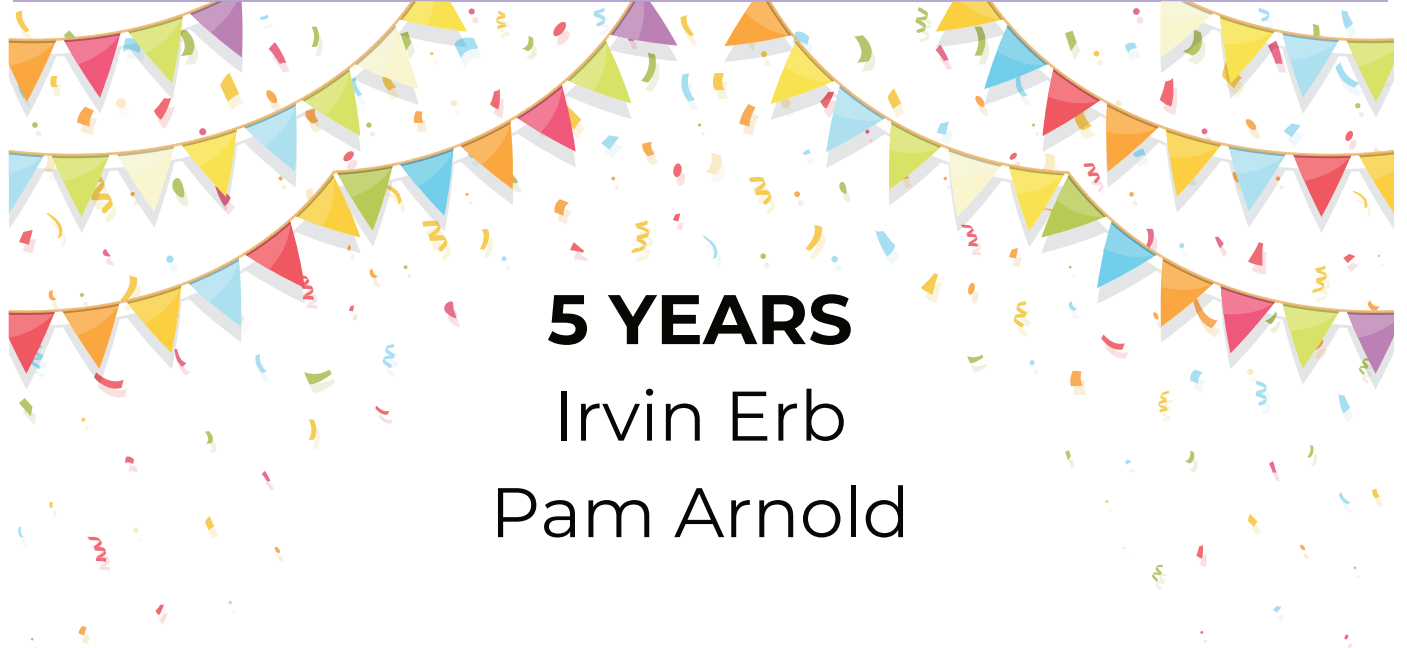
Congratulations to our 2023  
June Callwood Award Winner  
Mary Lovell

Join us in celebrating the remarkable contributions of Hospice Georgina volunteer, Mary Lovell, as she joined the esteemed June Callwood Award Circle of Outstanding Volunteers back in June of this year! For years, Mary has selflessly dedicated her time and energy to supporting our community through her involvement with Hospice Georgina. She has been a pillar of strength, compassion, and unwavering commitment. Mary's invaluable presence has touched the lives of many. She has skillfully facilitated our women's cancer group, offering solace and understanding to those navigating the challenging journey of cancer. Additionally, Mary has provided much needed grief support to children, helping them find healing and hope during their darkest moments. As a visiting home volunteer, Mary has been a comforting presence for clients with life-limiting illnesses. Her empathy and kindness shine through in every interaction, providing comfort and companionship to those in need. Mary fearlessly takes on any challenge that comes her way, going above and beyond to make a positive impact. Hospice Georgina is profoundly grateful to have Mary as part of our volunteer family. Her unwavering dedication and compassionate spirit have been instrumental in our mission to provide care and support to individuals and families facing end-of-life challenges. Let's come together to congratulate Mary Lovell on this well-deserved recognition. If you see her, be sure to extend your heartfelt congratulations.





# Celebrating our Wonderful Milestone Years of Service Recipients



## 5 YEARS

Irvin Erb  
Pam Arnold



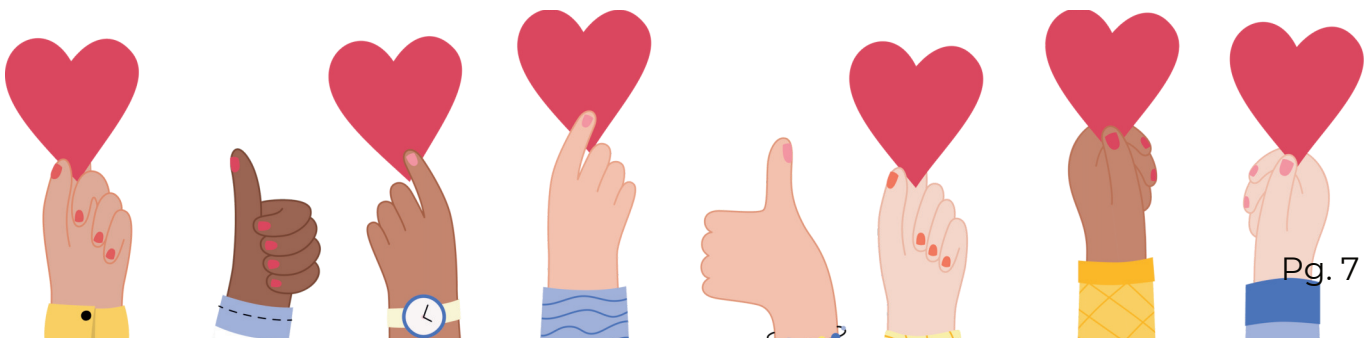
## 10 YEARS

Lynda Howe  
Catherine Trollope



## 15 YEARS

Gayle Clarke  
Mary Margaret Thorburn





# **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023**

**Brenda Pembleton**

**Congratulations to our 2023 Volunteer of the Year Award Winner  
Brenda Pembleton**

Brenda Pembleton has always believed in the power of giving back to the community. She is a firm believer that even the smallest act of kindness could make a significant difference in someone's life. It was this spirit of generosity that led her to become a volunteer at Hospice Georgina in 2015.

From the moment Brenda stepped through the doors of Hospice Georgina, she became an integral part of the organization. She has a warm and welcoming presence that immediately put people at ease, and her dedication to the cause is special.

From the start, Brenda took on various roles within Hospice Georgina. She is always ready to lend a hand wherever it is needed. Whether it is assisting with office duties, sorting through the lending library, events, fundraisers, and Newmarket Bingo World, Brenda is there with a smile on her face and a willingness to help.

One of the most significant challenges Hospice Georgina faced was our move in 2017. It was a daunting task to pack up the entire facility and then unpack it in a new location. However, Brenda was there every step of the way, working tirelessly to ensure a smooth transition. Her dedication and organizational skills were instrumental in making the move a success.

Brenda's commitment didn't stop at physical tasks; she also takes on important roles within Hospice Georgina. She became the secretary on the Event Committee team, contributing her skills to planning and organizing various events that raised funds and awareness for Hospice Georgina. Her attention to detail and tireless work ethic are invaluable to the team.

One of the most touching ways Brenda has contributed to Hospice Georgina is through her involvement with Day Hospice. She volunteers her time to spend with clients, offering companionship, support, and a listening ear. Brenda has a unique ability to connect with people, and her presence brings comfort to those who need it most.

Over the years, Brenda has become the heart and soul of Hospice Georgina. Her dedication, kindness, and willingness to go the extra mile makes her an invaluable member of the team. It is no surprise that Brenda Pembleton has been awarded the title of "Volunteer of the Year" by Hospice Georgina.

This award is a well deserved recognition of Brenda's commitment to Hospice Georgina and the people we serve. She has not only touched the lives of countless clients but has also inspired her fellow volunteers with her selflessness and compassion.

Thank you Brenda



# Programs & Community Outreach Coordinator

## Victoria Vass



In the last year, I have made it a mission of mine to reduce the stigma that the word 'Hospice' has on it. It is important for people to understand that our organization is a safe, healing, and fun place to socialize, get out of the house, and try new things. We promote resilience during challenging periods and provide strategies for self-care.



Within the walls of our hospice, healing takes on a multifaceted meaning. Emotional, spiritual, physical and psychosocial healing are all key factors in every individual's journey. We are dedicated to nurturing the human spirit and encourage laughter and joy as much as we do emotional support and companionship. At hospice, new friendships blossom, confidence grows, and hearts begin to heal.



Some new programs and activities I have introduced in the last year include paint classes, a cancer peer support group, therapy dogs, and a seniors day celebration. I am always looking for ways to improve our programs, add new activities, and ensure that a colourful range of opportunities are available for our community. Together, we embrace life!



# Here's What You Made Possible

We are proud to be a beacon of care and support for individuals in the Georgina community facing life-limiting illnesses, caregivers in need, and those seeking bereavement services. Throughout the year 2022/23, Hospice Georgina remained committed to our mission, providing compassionate assistance to our clients, their families, and our community. Our dedication to improving the quality of life during challenging times is at the heart of our service, and we look forward to continuing to serve the needs of Georgina residents in the future.



**134 hours**

Children & Youth Bereavement



**534 hours**

Adults & Seniors Bereavement



**1667 hours**

Home Visiting & Caregivers



**260 groups**

Programs & Workshops



**44 active volunteers**

**11,321 Hours**

Volunteers

# 2022-2023 Events



The Rob Grossi Roast was held on April 29, 2023. This was such a fun night and Rob was a great sport. Thank you to everyone who attended, sponsored, donated and volunteered.



Our annual Pansy sale was once again a great success. Thank you for stopping by to support us Scott Davidson.



Annual Grossi Family Pizza Night was a whopping success! Thank you to the support of Wayne Winch and Brenda Brouwer from Re/Max, who graciously sponsored the food, allowing more funding to flow directly to Hospice Georgina



The Curl for Care Bonspiel was a great time for all! Everyone had such a good time whether they were new to curling or a seasoned player. Thank you to all the participants who came out and supported Hospice Georgina.



A big CONGRATULATIONS to Melissa Demjen for winning Catch the Ace on Aug 30, 2023. Melissa went home with \$29,421.50.

Catch the Ace is back for another round, our first draw will be September 20th, 2023.



# Client Care Coordinator

## Cassandra Sinopoli

Hello! My name is Cassandra and I am one of the newest members of the Hospice Georgina team. I began in January of this year, taking on the role of Client Care Coordinator. Since January, I have been providing one-on-one and group grief support to our bereaved community members as well as pairing clients in the community with in-home visiting volunteers. Part of my role involves developing individualized care-plans for clients where we collaborate to identify treatment goals based on their cognitive, emotional, and physiological responses to grief and/or their life-limiting illness. Truly, what I do would not be possible without our devoted, compassionate, and caring volunteers. From attending grief training and supporting clients through their grief journey, to visiting clients in their home as a friendly visitor, our volunteers continuously go above and beyond to provide the support to our community that is greatly needed and deeply appreciated. I feel so grateful to be working alongside some of the most generous, kind, and empathetic individuals I've ever met, seeking to make their communities a better place.

Since working with Hospice Georgina, I can see how much love is deeply embedded within this community. There is a small-town charm that melts through the streets, where everyone knows everyone and there is never hesitation to smile and say, "hello!" to any strangers walking by. However, where there is love we know there is grief. This community grieves collectively. When everyone knows and loves everyone, there is a lot to grieve. They grieve for loved ones they've personally lost, they grieve for their neighbours, for their teachers and mentors, and friends of friends. Right now, there is a lot of grief in this community. That being said, I've noticed that people who come in for grief support lack the essential coping skills needed to not only get them through the immense pain that comes with a recent loss, but also to get them through the years ahead following this loss, as well as all of life's nuances and complexities. I have been integrating coping skills and self-care education into my approach with the intention to bridge this gap, and hopefully provide community members with the tools to move through their grief and handle all of life's inevitable setbacks.

Along with our one-to-one support, we are still running our Drop-In Grief Group on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month via Zoom, from 7PM-8PM. We welcome those who are bereaved, and welcome you to join when you feel ready. If you are interested in our in-home visiting or grief support services, feel free to contact me at [ccc@hospicegeorgina.com](mailto:ccc@hospicegeorgina.com) or 905-722-9333 ext. 5504.

I would like to leave you with one of my favourite quotes of all time.

**"Just because no one else  
can heal or do your inner  
work for you  
doesn't mean you can,  
should, or need  
to do it alone."**

-Lisa Olivera

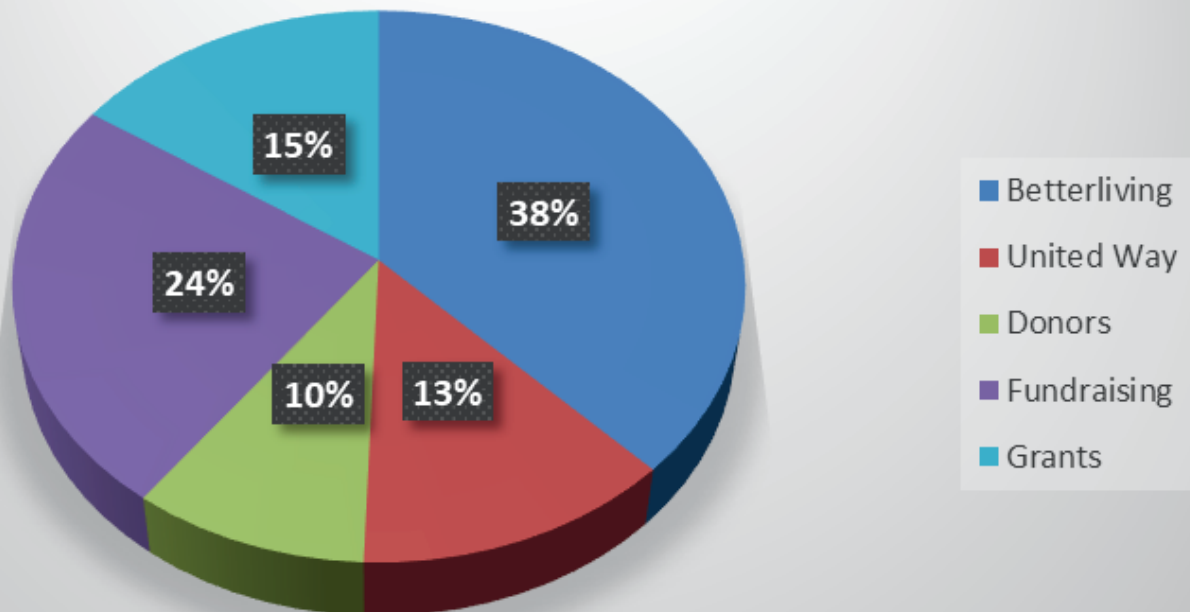
# Fundraising 2022-2023

We have had a successful year of fundraising and events, from the Rob Grossi Roast, Catch the Ace, Pancake breakfast, online auction, Curling and Pansy sales. Donations from our supporters, Grants, Better Living and United Way have enabled us to continue the work we do within our community and offer the support that is needed, at critical times. We thank each and every one of you for your support and dedication.

Special thank you to our Event & Fundraising Committee Volunteers

Mary Margaret Thorburn, Brenda Pembleton, Judi Carr-Kartash, Carrie Ann Smith, Irvin Erb, Lynda Ritchie, Lorraine Scarlett, Sandy Walters-Smith, Freda White, Kristin Smith, Brittany Elliott and our newest member Niki Patel.

## 2022-23 Revenue Source



# Sponsors and Donors

## Platinum Donors: \$5000+

M W Becker Funeral Home  
DG Group  
2833367 Ontario Ltd  
Katherine Livingstone

## Gold Donors: \$1000+

Grossi, Rob & Carolyn  
Keswick Home Hardware  
Kerbel Group Inc  
Ravenshoe United Church  
Team Peroff Realty  
White Owl Group  
Western Financial Group Inc  
Urquhart, Daryl  
Sutton Home Hardware  
Powell, Dwight  
Miller Waste Systems Inc  
Kinette Club of Sutton  
Giampietri, Mario  
Geranium

## Silver Donors: \$500+

Beechey, Rita  
Winch, Wayne  
Remax Allstars Team Trevor Realty  
Waddington, Michael  
Telford, Todd  
Spence, Alida  
Renate Freels  
Maynard Investments Inc.  
Jacobs, Scott  
Donnell Law Group  
Clarke, Teri  
Caroline Eracles Investments Inc.  
Ballymore Homes  
Ayres, Lorna  
Andrunyk, Sheri  
Ainslie Hill 1 Inc

Eustace, Brent  
Thorburn, Mary Margaret  
Mendonca, Mike  
Grossi, Joan & Peter  
Grossi, Paul  
Weller Tree Service  
Nancy & Gary Pegg  
Linda Hilpold  
Glenwoods Dental Office  
Gillis, Hanna  
Ed Torres  
Clearway Construction Inc  
Ancon Properties/Condor Properties  
Ltd  
Lorna Ayres  
M G Alexander  
Thorburn, Mary Margaret  
Sandra Walters-Smith  
Fahey Crate Law Professional Corp  
Doyle, Susan  
Andrunyk, Sheri  
Dianne Graves  
K. Wilson  
Maria Gabriel





# Sponsors and Donors

## Bronze Donors: \$20+

Thompson, Jan  
Reda, Antonio & Esterina  
Pearce, Wendy  
Maureen Wilcox  
Mallia, Bessie & Sal  
Jackson, Nick  
Hayes, Joan & John  
Graves, Dianne & William  
Graham, Barbara L.  
Godfrey, Nancy  
Donnelly, Ellen  
Demjen, Melissa  
Daniel, Cheryl  
Cryderman, Corey  
Cooke, Thomas  
Collier, Carol  
Burton, Christine  
Bennett, Bill & Anne  
Attanasio, Luigi & Arminda  
All Reasons Party Rental  
Richard Lam  
Karen Wigle  
Wisdom, Patricia  
Scandiffio, June  
De Blasi, Brenda  
David & Ann Cook  
Scott Irwin  
Scarlett, Duane & Lorraine  
Reid, Ruth  
Owens, Christine  
McKenzie-Morgan, Connie  
Martin, Ellen  
Marlene Hitchcock  
Langworth, Allyson  
Johnson, Barton  
Graves, Dianne & William  
Fairborn, Cynthia & Rodney  
Erkkila, Tuula  
Brenda Pembleton

Annette Pivnick  
Anderson, Jennifer  
R. Gosselin  
William & Barbara Mawhinney  
Whitney, Karen  
Radin, Niko  
Stella F Peppin  
Diasio, Jackie  
Audrey Trantau  
Mike Anderson  
Mark & Linda McKets  
Marilyn A Verdoold  
Lynch, Margaret  
Logue, Mark  
Lambie, Patricia  
Gary & Dorthy Reeve  
Marlene Goldschmidt

(Please let us know if we omitted your name by mistake)

Thank  
You 

# 2023 Staff



Laurie Knapp  
Executive Director

905-722-9333 x 5503  
caring@hospicegeorgina.com



Debbie Waterman  
Administrative Assistant

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Cassandra Sinopoli  
Client Care Coordinator

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Victoria Vass  
Community & Outreach  
Coordinator

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events@hospicegeorgina.com



# A Volunteer Story

When I first met Joan, November 9th, 2020, I sat in the chair that I would sit in many times over the next year and 3 months. It was a big black rolling office chair with a long flowery cushion from top to bottom. Her plants stood out to me as she had probably 10 or more big plants all laid on a table in the big living room window. There were a lot of little trinkets, sculptures, and fancy glasses in glass cases that she would sometimes tell me stories about how she got them. She had thousand dollar bird sculptures, 500 each she said proudly, and an expensive fancy bowl made of onyx. Her curtains were drawn but the sheer curtains would remained closed. A few months later I would open these to let more light in and she kept them open for a long time after, realizing she liked the brighter room. She had a large octagonal coffee table in the middle of the room with papers, candies, bowls, a back scratcher, and a placemat.

Near the end of our first meeting, she told me that she was a psychic, and that my brother is around me. At this time my brother was studying in Hungary, and I had had a hard time saying goodbye to him that summer, but I never mentioned him to her, but she knew he wore graphic t-shirts and this always baffled my brother when I told him what she knew. I instantly began to cry, I am not sure why, but something came over me.

As I left her place, we said our goodbyes and lovely to meet you's, and when I went outside, to

a beautiful mild and sunny November day, I realized that I was finally on my path, something had just clicked, a piece had just fallen into place.

I began visiting her regularly, once a week, I had heard she liked Cribbage and Backgammon so I quickly learned how to play the week before visiting her so that we could play together. We didn't get to play for a while, as Joan had so much to say all the time. She had endless stories about her wild life, she always said she could write a book about, and I agree, but her stories are with her, and tucked away in my heart, and some of those closest to her. I remember one time I was fed up with my own life and said things were not fair, and she really put me in my place (which she was good at), that "you think your life is not fair?" And proceeded to give me details about very difficult stories from her past. I then got whipped into shape realizing I had it pretty good, all things considered.

When the virus became worse again, in the winter of 2020, we retreated to phone calls. We missed our visits but continued our long conversations. I would call her on my way home from work, which back then was 40 minutes long where I would take side roads through forested areas, enjoying my drive and our conversations, sometimes taking a detour to make our conversations longer.

A while into our visits, she finally told me the reason her nurse had requested a volunteer to come visit her from the hospice. She had been sad, and lonely, and would often be crying. Her life was not easy by any means.

When I started my non-profit organization, she told me it was going to go very well, and though I felt that in my heart, the reassurance of someone like her was comforting.

# A Volunteer Story

She always had something to say about absolutely everything. Whether it was an opinion, a story, or an idea, she always had something. Her mind was an endless pit of memories, it was absolutely fascinating. She was sharp, witty, funny, strong, and at times frustrating and impossible, but she still accepted me as I am, and I her, and we could talk for hours and hours. In her last few months, she began getting more tired, having recurring nose bleeds. She had recently gotten a new oxygen machine not long before her death that she said sounded like a truck passing through her apartment.

On her 90th birthday, January 20th 2022 (not the 19th because her mother said we only move forward, as she was born right at the end of the 19th), I came over the next day and brought her a 90 balloon, pizza, and cake. We ate, we laughed, we talked, we played our usuals.

I am so grateful that I got to meet this powerful, resilient, and strong woman. She gave me strength and guidance many times, while I gave her company, love, and respect. At first she called me her social worker, then her therapist, her grand daughter, but in the end I was her friend, and angel. Joan loved everything, she was a lover and a fighter. She demanded attention and respect, and she got it, and I willingly gave that to her.

On her last night, we hadn't talked in a few days, the last I had seen her was the Friday before, and we played Cribbage and Backgammon. As usual she beat me at Cribbage, and luckily, I beat her in Backgammon. Tuesday night, she had called me at 5:05pm, left me a voicemail, with her usual voice and demeanor to give her a call back. I decided to call her on my way to a class that evening, and when I did she picked up the phone and said "I need help". I quickly pulled a U-turn and called 911. I rushed in and held her hand, told her the ambulance was coming, told her she isn't alone, I am here, you are not alone, you are safe. About 10 minutes after I arrived, she stopped squeezing my hand back, and she fell asleep, never to wake again. I did not believe it at first, Joan was never going to die, Joan was going to live at least another 10 years was what I truly thought.

I am eternally grateful and honoured that I got to spend Joan's last moments with her. Seeing her leave our earth to wherever we go next. Joan is at peace now and Joan is happy now. She does not live within the limitations of her body. She can do whatever she wants and finally be free of any hardships she had on earth. I know Joan will visit me one day, maybe more than once, maybe in a dream, maybe protect me when I am not looking out for myself, but I feel her with me, her presence was and always will be strong.

Joan, you changed my life, I know we made a big impact on each other, our unlikely pairing. Thank you for all that you added to my life.

I miss calling you.

I miss playing our board games.

I miss hanging out, chatting about everything.

You are in my heart forever.

**Rest in Peace, Joan.**  
**January 20, 1932 - February 8, 2022**



# Thank You!



## Volunteer with us

Ask us about all our volunteering opportunities



## Donate

Whether it is a one-time donation or a monthly plan, every little bit helps!



## Item Donation

Do you knit? Have some unused items you are looking to get rid of? We might need it!



## Memory Tree

Honour a loved one that has passed on, by putting their name on our memory tree

**Hospice Georgina**  
**20849 Dalton Road, Unit C Box 721**  
**Sutton, ON L0E 1R0**  
**P:905-722-9333 F:905-722-0208**  
**[www.hospicegeorgina.com](http://www.hospicegeorgina.com)**

