

A story of care and comfort at Rotary Hospice, a house of life

"A month and a half after my mother turned 100, she died in hospice - on April 24 of this year. In the nine days that she was cared for in hospice, almost everyone in our family was able to visit her. And I was struck by the comment of one of my nieces ... she said she feared she was entering a house of death, but it was actually a house of life.

And that is very true. The incredible view my mum had of magnolia trees, and "squirrel-feeders", and ducks that came right up to the window to say hello, and people walking dogs, made her feel a part of life again. That is even without experiencing the care she - and we - received. Thoughtful, innovative, respectful, empathetic, humane care.

My mum also appreciated the sense of humour that was very much alive in the hospice. The carers and volunteers



loved to chat when she was able, and always had a smile ready.

When Rotary Hospice first opened in 2019, my husband and I decided we wanted to support it in a regular way and became monthly donors. Today, after experiencing first-hand the care my mother received, we are even more committed to supporting this wonderful 'home' and the tremendous care that happens within its walls".

Judy Maddren, daughter, mother, monthly donor and organizer extraordinaire of A Christmas Carol reading in support of Rotary Hospice this year on December 8, 2024 at Avondale United Church. Tickets: rotaryhospice.ca.

Your gift to Rotary Hospice creates these countless cherished moments. Thank you.

Dedicate a Light of Love

in honour or in memory of a loved one. Their name and your message will be presented in the slideshow at the lighting ceremony and then updated regularly on our website until December 31.

All donations gratefully accepted with tax receipts issued for gifts of \$20 or more.



Join us for the Ceremony

Friday, November 29, 7:00 pm

For details about the event and to donate, visit rotaryhospice.ca/lights-of-love.

Let's light up Rotary Hospice this holiday season so that those who call it home feel the support and love all around them.

Meet Lisa Henry RN, Director of Resident Care



Lisa shares why her work is meaningful, and provides some information about the admission and referral process to Rotary Hospice.

"I became involved in the Hospice movement, early in my career, in the early 1990s when it was new to Ontario. It was my dream in those early years to 'someday' build a Hospice.

Almost 35 years later, I am now living my dream. End-of-life care, especially in the hospice setting, is my passion. Throughout the years I have always found ways to serve those on their end-of-life journey. It is my privilege to serve in this way."

Lisa encourages individuals to call Rotary Hospice to ask questions about the services provided and to learn more about the referral and admission process. Referrals can be initiated at any time during one's illness and are often completed in the Advanced Care Planning process. If an individual has chosen hospice as their preferred setting for end-of-life care, early referral can be completed. Contact Lisa by email: lisa@rotaryhospice.ca or by phone: 519-508-4900 x550.

Creating a Serenity Garden



Planning is underway to create a Serenity Garden at Rotary Hospice with guidance from local landscape architect, Jane Eligh-Feryn. Recently, at the 6th annual Handbags for Hospice, guests learned more about the impact the garden will have.

Our hospice was built with the benefits of nature in mind, with floor to ceiling windows that offer a beautiful view of the trees changing with the seasons. This unrestricted view of the outdoors can offer a small piece of what it feels like to be home. The Serenity Garden will be an extension of the beauty that our hospice holds indoors, and a place to make even more moments that matter.

Last June, the annual Pork Congress Hog Jog spearheaded the fundraising for the garden by raising a phenomenal \$65,000. They recognized that, for those in our community dealing with the powerful emotions associated with end-of-life experiences, it will offer a special place for quiet contemplation. To learn more, visit: rotaryhospice.ca

\$350

That's the amount Rotary Hospice is required to fundraise per day, per resident room. When you make a gift of \$350 (or a monthly gift of \$30) you may dedicate it to a loved one on a day of your choosing. To learn more, visit: rotaryhospice.ca/every-day-counts

5 Years of Compassionate Care and Community Support

We are excited to share that as of this year, we have fully paid off the mortgage on our Rotary Hospice home! This is a major milestone which could not have been possible without the wonderful support of our community.

"Each and every day, residents and their loved ones are wrapped with care and support because of the generous gifts from our community. On behalf of everyone at Rotary Hospice, those that have called it home, and those that will come to call it home, we want to offer our heartfelt thanks".

~Louise Lepp, Executive Director

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Friday, November 29 | Lights of Love Ceremony

Monday, December 2 | Winter Webinar: Grief During the Holidays | 7:00 pm | To register contact melissa@rotaryhospice.ca



Sunday, December 8 | Avondale United Church at 7:00 pm. A *Christmas Carol* - a dramatic reading with local well-known readers and festive music. Rediscover the spirit, laughter, and heart of the holidays! Purchase tickets online at rotaryhospice.ca.

Sunday June 22, 2025 | Hike for Hospice!

Visit rotaryhospice.ca for full event details. If you have an upcoming event in support of Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth, let us know so we can let others know!

gratitude & reflection

This past year has been one of both growth and incredible support from our community. Thanks to your generous donations, we've been able to provide compassionate care and comfort to

those in need during their most difficult moments. Your continued support ensures we can carry on this vital mission, and for that, we are deeply grateful. Thank you.



Donations of \$2,500+, will be acknowledged on the annual giving wall, which is updated annually and cumulatively.

Donations can be made securely on our website at rotaryhospice.ca

For more information contact: Lucie Stuart, Director Fund Development and Stewardship 519-508-4900 x720 lucie@rotaryhospice.ca

DONATION FORM

I/we would like to make a difference with the following donation:

Dedicate a Light of Love: \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Pay for a Day of Care for one resident \$350 Pay for a Week of Care for one resident \$2800 Please contact me so I can provide my chosen date and story

One-time gift: \$ _____ Monthly gift: \$ _____ **TOTAL Donations \$ _____**

Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more.

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

Prov: _____ Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Payment by Visa Mastercard Card # _____ Exp / CVV _____

Payment by cheque Please make cheque payable to *Stratford Perth Hospice Foundation*

MY LIGHT is in memory of honour of:

Name: _____

Message for online dedication (optional): _____

Please contact me, I am interested in:

making a gift with securities (stock)

leaving a gift in my will

Please mail this form with payment to:

Stratford Perth Hospice Foundation
80 Greenwood Drive, Stratford, ON N5A 0J1
t. 519-508-4900