

Gratitude report for supporters of Providence Hospice of Seattle

Because *of you...*

*This 2022 report tells stories of people whose lives were transformed...thanks to the work we did together. **Your generosity makes this all possible.***



Lynn Lau was 70 years old when she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She was able to spend her final days at home, because of your generous support of hospice.

Lynn Lau, a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and friend received a shocking diagnosis

Thanks to your support of hospice, her family got the help they needed to care for her at home

Lynn Lau was vivacious, hard-working, and a loving mother and grandmother. “She was very giving, generous, and kind,” said her daughter, Tiffany. “She had a great laugh. And she was fiercely loved by her family.”

But when Lynn was 69 years old, she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. It was a huge shock to her family.

Lynn battled cancer for the next 5 years. She was also caring, full-time, for her disabled daughter. She went through two rounds of chemotherapy and a round of radiation. But eventually, her body started to shut down. Her doctor said it was time to bring in hospice.

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INSIDE: Read about Dennis—another patient you’ve helped with your support.

As Dennis's health declined, so did his independence – he needed help

Because of you, he was able to maintain his dignity until the end. Thank you!

Dennis Jeppesen loved food. He also enjoyed watching cooking shows. So, when he retired, he took up cooking! It seemed like a natural fit. He also loved boating and traveling. And he loved his dogs!

As much as Dennis enjoyed life and retirement, he struggled with ongoing health challenges. One was diabetes. It led to a toe amputation, which seemed manageable. But the amputation site became infected. And the infection eventually developed into sepsis. After multiple hospital stays, Dennis finally returned home. His health had significantly declined, though. A close friend suggested that his wife, Terry, contact Providence Hospice of Seattle.

A nurse from Providence Hospice visited Dennis and Terry. She determined that Dennis wasn't yet ready for hospice, but he was eligible for Providence's palliative care program.

"Providence Hospice was so helpful," said Terry. "They put together a plan to keep Dennis comfortable. They brought him whatever he needed. Dennis had been developing bed sores. So, Providence arranged to have a special mattress delivered to relieve the pressure on his back. They also helped me get him a wheelchair."

"In addition to helping Dennis, the palliative care team brought me a list of people I could call for support, as well as classes I could attend. I really appreciated knowing there was help out there."

"It was very comforting to have the palliative care team there. Knowing there was someone to turn to, to guide us and help us get what we needed," said Terry.

Dennis's health continued to decline. He was finally ready for hospice.

"I made an appointment for the hospice nurse to visit later in the week, to get him signed up for hospice care. But Dennis died in his sleep early in the week. He surprised us, because his death didn't seem imminent."

Dennis was 84 years old.



Dennis on a boat in South Carolina. Two of his passions were boating and traveling. As his health declined, Providence's palliative care program was there to help, thanks to you and your generous donations.

"The dignity that Providence Hospice of Seattle's palliative care team brought to Dennis was immense," said Terry. "It helped him feel like a person, rather than someone who could no longer do anything. He was always so independent."

"Without Providence and their palliative care program, I would have been floundering. They took it one level above what a doctor can do. They knew what Dennis and I needed. It took a big load off of my mind."

Your generous donations made the care and support Dennis received possible. Thank you for helping bring him dignity at the end of his life.



Dennis loved his Samoyeds. Jade and Tasha (pictured above) sit in the back of Dennis's car, where they'd watch the neighbors go by when Dennis was no longer able to walk them.

One generation plants the tree... the next sits in its shade

You care about compassionate hospice care in our community.
And you are kind to people in their time of need.

When you include a charitable gift in your will or trust, you
do that — even after you're gone.

Your love reaches into the future and will inspire those who
come after us to join in the cause of compassionate hospice
care for everyone. It's one of the most life-affirming actions
you'll take this year!

To discuss leaving your legacy, contact:

Gary Crum

Foundation Director

206-749-7801 or gary.crum@providence.org

[Lynn](#) continued from front page



Consider including Providence Hospice of Seattle Foundation in your will or trust. You'll be a blessing to the community for years to come.



Lynn and her daughter, Tiffany. Tiffany was able to care for her mom at home, thanks to you and your support.

"My mom had retired early to help care for my two kids," said Tiffany. "When she was diagnosed with cancer, they were 6 and 8 years old. They were very close to her. Knowing that my mom wouldn't be there for their big life events was really hard."

Because of generous donors like you, Providence Hospice of Seattle was there to help.

"All of us felt a lot of peace having the expertise of the hospice team," said Tiffany.

Providence Hospice arranged to have a hospital bed brought to Lynn's house. They also brought in additional equipment. They even brought her a "grabber" to help her pick up something if she dropped it on the floor. A hospice aide came regularly to bathe her. Hospice managed all of her medications. They made sure she wasn't in pain. And the hospice team showed Tiffany and her family techniques for turning Lynn, so she wouldn't develop bed sores.

"The most important thing hospice did for us was provide us with peace of mind and knowing what to expect," said Tiffany. "I'm very grateful I didn't have to go through my mom's last weeks alone. Mom really wanted to be at home when she died. She didn't want to spend her last weeks in the hospital. Hospice made that possible."

Lynn died peacefully, surrounded by her family. Soon after she died, her hospice nurse came to her house to prepare her body. She dressed her in her favorite pajamas and head scarf.

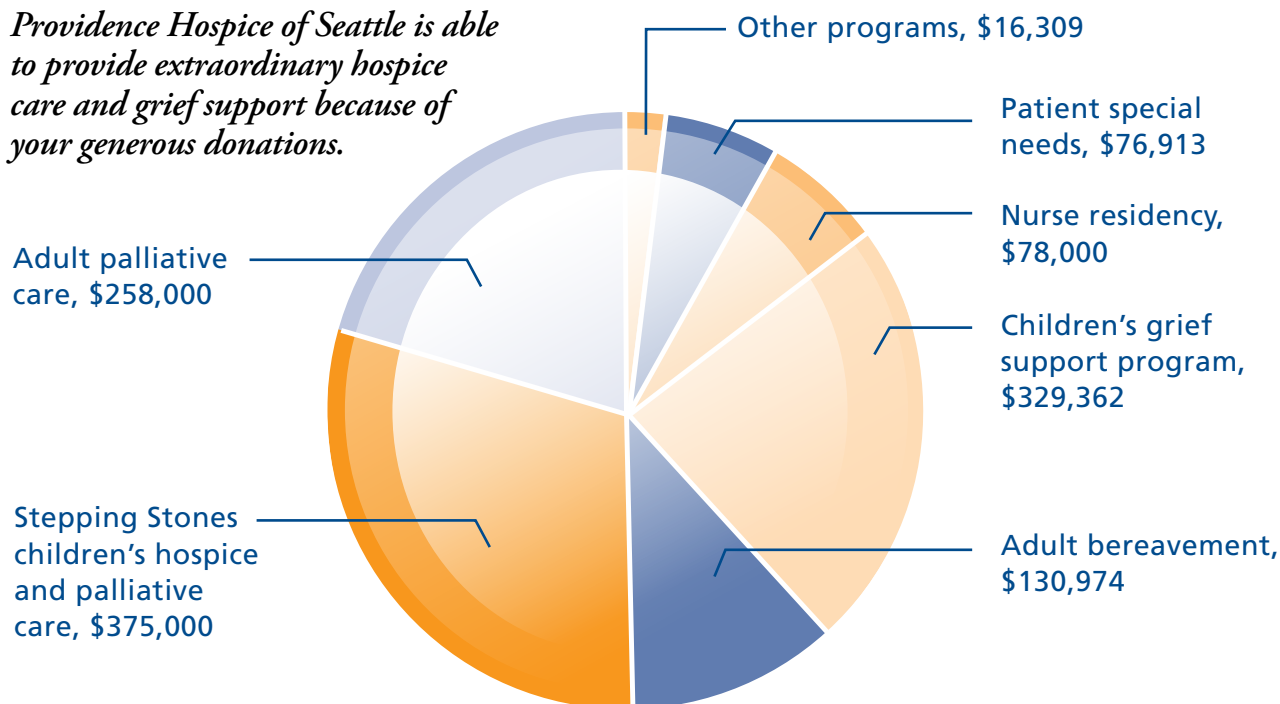
"When the nurse was done, my mom looked like she was peacefully sleeping," said Tiffany. "Her sisters and a couple of dear friends and I gathered around her and did her makeup (my mom made me promise I would do her eyelashes after she died!). It was a sweet and special moment for all of us to say goodbye and send her on her way looking her best."

"I am so grateful to the hospice nurse for providing that service and allowing us to collect ourselves and then have those final moments with my mom."

Thank you for standing with Lynn and other adults in our community at the end of their lives. Their final days are better because of you.

2022 Financial Report: Programs Supported by Your Gifts

Providence Hospice of Seattle is able to provide extraordinary hospice care and grief support because of your generous donations.



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My Gift to Help People Struggling with Terminal Illness and Grief

Yes! I want to stand with my neighbors and be part of the critical work of Providence Hospice of Seattle.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of:

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☐ I have included hospice in my will.