Catie’s dad died when she was just 17 years old. Because of you, Camp Erin was there to help her cope with all her emotions and learn how to grieve in healthy ways.

The death of her father left teen feeling alone and isolated

Thanks to you, she found hope and healing

Catie was just 7 years old when her dad, Randy Ekins, was diagnosed with cancer. For the next 10 years, his cancer retreated and returned. The family held out hope. But when she was a senior in high school, her dad’s cancer returned. It was terminal. Providence Hospice of Seattle stepped in to help.

“Our grief counselor, Emili, came to our house,” said Catie. “She prepared my brother and me for our dad’s death.”

Randy Ekins died on February 25, 2016. He was just 53 years old. Catie was 17. Her grief counselor recommended Camp Erin®-King County.

Camp Erin is Providence Hospice of Seattle’s annual weekend camp for kids and teens who are grieving the death of someone close to them.

“At first, I was hesitant,” said Catie. “But I agreed to go. It turned out to be one of the best weekends of my life!”

Story continued on page 3
gets hot. Often, uncomfortably hot. You have a small air conditioning unit in one of the windows. But it’s not able to cool the house down. You’re afraid for your son and how the warm summer weather is going to affect him. He’s struggling so much already.

Unfortunately, this situation is real. The boy with cancer was being cared for by Providence Hospice of Seattle. As his health continued to decline, his parents were worried. They worried about how hot their mobile home gets. And about their son’s quality of life as the end got closer.

But this family didn’t have to worry for very long. Because of your generous donations, Providence Hospice’s Patient Special Needs Fund was there to help!

The fund pays for basic essentials, as well as quality-of-life items, for low-income hospice patients. Money from the fund was used to buy this family a larger air conditioning unit! They were so thankful to have it to keep their home cool and comfortable. Their son was able to stay cool and enjoy the last month of his life.

100% of the money in the Patient Special Needs Fund comes from donations. Thank you for helping this young boy and other patients like him!

Imagine … you and your family live in a small mobile home. It’s not a lot. But it’s yours. Your young son has cancer. When the weather warms up, your mobile home gets hot. You have a small air conditioning unit in one of the windows. But it’s not able to cool the house down. You’re afraid for your son and how the warm summer weather is going to affect him. He’s struggling so much already.

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You and your generous donations purchased a portable air conditioner for a young cancer patient and his family. Thank you for keeping him comfortable at the end of his life.

Imagine … you and your family live in a small mobile home. It’s not a lot. But it’s yours. Your young son has cancer. When the weather warms up, your mobile home gets hot. Often, uncomfortably hot. You have a small air conditioning unit in one of the windows. But it’s not able to cool the house down. You’re afraid for your son and how the warm summer weather is going to affect him. He’s struggling so much already.

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How will you be remembered?

Leaving a gift in your will to Providence Hospice of Seattle is a once-in-a-lifetime chance. A chance to ensure that people who are facing terminal illness and grief get the help and support they need. It’s a chance to donate, what could be the biggest gift you’ll ever make.

And for your kindness and generosity, we will always remember you. For more information, call Gary Crum at 206-749-7801 or email him at gary.crum@providence.org.
3 Simple Ways…

You can bring comfort and peace to someone who’s terminally ill.

Donate online.

You’ll make a difference today! Visit www.providence.org/hosdonate.

Give in Memory.

Giving in memory of a loved one is a perfect way to honor that special person, and bring comfort to a terminally ill person in need.

Give in Celebration.

Consider asking your friends and family to celebrate your birthday by donating to Providence Hospice of Seattle in lieu of gifts.

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You’re invited to change a child’s life!

Please join us for our 23rd Annual Pediatric Luncheon, raising money for terminally ill and grieving children in your community!

As of press time, we’re hoping to hold this year’s event in-person, with an added virtual component for those who aren’t able, or don’t wish to, attend in person. Visit our Pediatric Luncheon website for up-to-date information: https://wahos.give.providence.org/2022luncheon.

When: Thursday, October 6, 2022

Where: Washington State Convention Center

Time: 11:30am registration opens

12:00pm program begins

Your donation at the luncheon will help ensure that hospice care and grief support are available to kids in our community, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Continued from page 1

“My favorite aspect of camp was that on some unspoken level, everyone had a similar experience. Camp allowed me to let down a wall I’d put up. I was able to just be a kid. Camp allowed me to be in a space where I was comfortable talking about my dad. I learned that I can carry him with me always.”

After camp, Catie wanted to give back. She got the chance this year.

“The experience of volunteering at camp was almost better than being a camper,” said Catie. “I loved being able to provide a fun environment for the kids to let down their walls and just have fun. At the end of camp, I loved walking down the hill to the parking lot and seeing the relief on the parents’ faces – to see how happy their kids were.”

“Without Camp Erin, I likely wouldn’t have addressed my grief head on. I wouldn’t have been comfortable with all of the emotions I felt after my dad died. I’ve been able to apply the skills and knowledge I learned at camp to other aspects of my life.”

Without your generous donations, Camp Erin®-King County would not have been there for Catie and kids like her. Thank you for giving her the help she needed!
Because of your support, 85-year-old was able to share his legacy at the end of his life

For years, Nobuhiko Sakai lived in Los Angeles. He moved there from New York for the sunny weather and the golf. Golf was his passion. For years, Nobuhiko struggled with high blood pressure. Eventually, his kidneys started to fail. He needed dialysis. He was also struggling with memory loss. His doctor said he needed more care. So, his daughter, Sekiko, moved him to Seattle to be closer to her.

In Seattle, his doctor recommended hospice. Because of the unique and groundbreaking relationship between the Northwest Kidney Centers and Providence Hospice of Seattle, Nobuhiko was able to continue dialysis while also receiving hospice care. Usually patients have to choose between hospice and dialysis. But because of this new relationship, Nobuhiko didn’t have to choose between them. 

“One of dad’s favorite things about hospice at home was our sweet Lab mix, Maxwell, would go down to his room and keep him company,” said his daughter, Sekiko.

“Providence Hospice was great,” said Sekiko. “My dad’s hospice nurse was extraordinarily nice, patient and upbeat. She was always there for us. She was calming and reassuring. She walked us through what to expect as dad got closer to dying, and what signs to watch for.”

“It was very comforting and helpful to know that we could call Providence Hospice 24/7, if we had questions or needed anything. Someone was always there.”

“Because Dad was able to continue dialysis and receive hospice care, he had more time with us. He was able to tell us about his parents and grandparents – about parts of our family we didn’t know about and their legacy in Japan. We learned so much about our history. Dad had the opportunity, at the end of his life, to share all of this with us.”

“I don’t know what I would have done without hospice. We wouldn’t have been able to keep Dad at home at the end of his life, and that’s what he wanted. We wouldn’t have been able to keep him comfortable. And most importantly, he wouldn’t have had the chance to share his legacy with us.”

Yes! I want to make sure hospice and grief support are there for adults and kids in our community.

I have enclosed a generous gift of:

☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $1,000  ☐ $_________

Name________________________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________
City___________________________State_______Zip Code____________
Email _______________________
☐ I have included hospice in my will

Mail to:
Providence Hospice of Seattle Foundation
2811 S, 102nd Street, Suite 220
Tukwila, WA  98168

DONATE NOW!
Visit www.providence.org/hosdonate