Their Mom’s Death Left These Three Young Kids in Shock

Thanks to you, specialized grief counseling was available and they’re moving forward with their lives.

Gale Low loved life. She was happily married with three children (two daughters and a son). She worked as a special education teacher. She and her husband, Curtis, loved to travel.

“Gale always thought of others before herself,” said Curtis. “She was deeply devoted to her kids, and was a very loving person.”

But in 2012, when Gale was just 42 years old, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

“She did surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation. She was a real soldier going through it,” recalled her husband.

Sadly, on November 30, 2014, Gale Low died. Curtis was in shock. His main concern was his kids and how to get them through the loss of their mom.

Fortunately, the hospital where Gale was being cared for suggested he contact Providence Hospice of Seattle’s children’s grief program.

“Emili, our grief counselor, is a gift from God,” said Curtis.

“Knowing that Providence is there to walk kids through exercises that will get them to love and remember their mom is a relief,” said her husband, Curtis.
Impact of Your Gifts

NAME: Darrel Ellis
HOME: Shoreline
FAMILY: Patricia (wife), Ryan and Shawn (sons)
AFFECTED BY: Prostate cancer that spread to his bones
QUALIFIED FOR: Hospice

Thanks to you, Darrel was able to spend his final days in comfort and free of pain

How Darrel and his family learned about Providence Hospice

Darrel was 66 years old when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. It was an aggressive form that quickly spread to his bones. He went through six rounds of chemotherapy, but the cancer continued to progress. Darrel was in immense pain. It was one of his home caregivers who suggested his family contact Providence Hospice of Seattle.

How Providence Hospice helped Darrel

“It was such a relief when Hospice came,” said Darrel’s son, Shawn. “Before that, we were just winging it on our own.”

Hospice brought a bed for Darrel and made him comfortable – something he hadn’t experienced for a long time. They also brought oxygen, bathroom supplies, and other needed equipment. Most importantly, they were able to reduce his pain.

Both of Darrel’s sons, Shawn and Ryan helped care for their dad. They did everything they could to make him comfortable. And the expertise and guidance that Hospice brought helped tremendously.

“The Hospice team was so patient and very respectful of Darrel. They were very respectful of us all,” recalled Patricia, his wife.

“Providence Hospice brought an understanding that we didn’t have and professional experience that was very much needed,” recalled Shawn.

For Patricia, it was comforting to know she could call Hospice any time of the day, at any hour, and someone would be there to help.

Where Darrel and his family would be without Providence Hospice

“When without Providence Hospice, it would have been horrible,” said Patricia, “Darrel would have been in so much pain. The most important thing Hospice did was control Darrel’s pain, and also the peace and reassurance they brought to us, his family. Hospice was like a band of angels.”
Low family story continued from page 1

Providence Hospice provided the kids with in-home grief counseling the year after their mom died. They did grief activities to honor her, such as making cairns and decorating flower pots. They also learned coping skills and ways to honor their mom’s legacy.

Last year, Curtis’ daughters, Faith and Trinity, attended Providence Hospice’s annual grief camp for kids – Camp Erin®-King County.

“They met kids going through the same grief, and they could share that, and they can build friendships through that and at the same time they got to honor their mom,” said Curtis.

On the way home from camp, Faith turned to her dad and said, “Dad, it was such a relief to be around girls that really know what I’m going through.”

Curtis knows his kids are on the right track, healing, and moving forward.

Without your generous donations, Providence Hospice’s children’s grief program and Camp Erin®-King County would not have been there for Curtis and Gale’s kids. But because of you, this family got the help they needed. These programs are offered free of charge, thanks to your generous donations.

Thank you!
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 support and comfort they need. Even after you’re gone. And for your kindness, we’ll always remember you. To learn how easy it is to leave a gift in your will to Providence Hospice of Seattle, call Gary Crum at 206-749-7801 or email him at gary.crum@providence.org.

Yes, I will help adults and kids who are facing death and grief.

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

Save-the-Date!

We’re gearing up for our 19th annual Pediatric Luncheon. The event takes place at 12pm on Tuesday, September 18 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. There is no cost to attend. At the end of the program, guests will be asked to make a donation of $150 or more.

Your donation at the luncheon will help ensure that hospice care and grief support are available for children and their families, regardless of their financial circumstances. For more information, contact Jill Perry at 206-749-7956 or hospicefoundation@providence.org, or visit us online at www.providence.org/luncheon.