Tom Hacker was 89 years old. He and his wife, Vicky, had lived in their Seattle home for 50 years. After battling heart disease, he was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. As he became more fragile, his doctor suggested contacting hospice.

Being able to stay at home until he died was extremely important to Tom. With hospice, he could still be with Vicky. They had been married for 61 years. She was his partner in life.

“Dad was so concerned about our mom,” said Laurie, one of Tom’s two daughters. “Hospice allowed him to have peace, knowing that Mom was being helped and cared for. Hospice helped Dad through helping Mom.”

“Providence Hospice was wonderful,” said Kathy, Tom’s other daughter. “They took care of all of Dad’s health care needs. And they added the gift of nourishing his soul with the harp.”

For Tom, the best part about Providence Hospice – the most special part – was the harpist who came to visit him and play music.

Before he died, Tom made a donation to Providence Hospice, to support the music therapy program and specifically the “harp concerts,” as he called them.

“Without hospice, I would have questioned whether we did all we could for Dad,” explained Laurie. “Because
“Without Hospice I Would Have Been Lost”

Thanks to your support, hospice was there to help daughter care for her 85-year-old mom

Joanne suffered from COPD. Thanks to you, Providence Hospice was there to help.

For the last two-and-a-half years of Joanne Asplund’s life, her daughter, Karen, and her grandson, Robert, were her primary caregivers. They took excellent care of her. It wasn’t always easy, but they loved her deeply, and they felt lucky to be able to help.

Joanne struggled with COPD. Fortunately, home health came to her house regularly to provide care. But as the disease progressed, Joanne’s health got worse. Eventually, they recommended hospice.

“I felt so supported by Providence Hospice,” said Karen. “When I called triage for help, they were very caring. And when I called after hours, they were always there for me.”

Hospice helped arrange a hospital bed for Joanne, as well as a wheelchair. They also brought all the needed supplies.

For both Karen and her mom, the highlight of hospice was the chaplain.

“It was like God came to the house,” exclaimed Karen. “It was the little stuff she did. She held Mom’s hand. And she brought laughter into the house. Mom would ask when she was coming again to visit.”

“Without Providence Hospice, I would have been lost,” said Karen.

“Hospice isn’t about dying. You don’t go on hospice and then die. Hospice is about living as fully as you can during the time you have left. That’s what Mom was able to do.”

Thank you for standing with Joanne; her daughter, Karen; her grandson, Robert; and others in our community who are at the end of their lives. Their final days are better because of your support of Providence Hospice of Seattle.

How Will You Be Remembered?

You’re working hard to make a better world. Your decision to help people who are facing a terminal illness by supporting Providence Hospice of Seattle is a big part of that.

Leaving a gift in your will to Providence Hospice of Seattle is a chance to ensure that people who are facing terminal illness and grief get the help and care they need. Even after you’re gone.

To learn how easy it is to leave a gift in your will, or to learn about a gift of stock or securities, call Gary Crum at 206-749-7801 or email him at gary.crum@providence.org.
Save the date for our 21st Annual Pediatric Luncheon! This is an opportunity for you to help terminally ill and grieving kids in our community.

**When:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020

**Where:** Washington State Convention Center

**Time:** 11:30am registration opens, 12:00pm program begins

Your donation at the luncheon will help fund our children’s hospice and grief support programs. You will ensure that these services are available to kids in our community, regardless of their financial circumstances.

For more information, contact Jill Perry at 206-749-7956 or hospicefoundation@providence.org.

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**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

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**amazon smile**

You can shop Amazon.com and support terminally ill and grieving adults and kids at the same time! Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase to Providence Hospice of Seattle Foundation.

Go to smile.amazon.com.

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**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.

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**Specialized grief counseling for kids and teens, along with our weekend grief camp, Camp Erin®-King County, are available only because of donors like you. You can help more kids in our community by joining us for our 21st Annual Pediatric Luncheon!**

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**Journeys is a publication of Providence Hospice of Seattle Foundation**

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Development Assistant

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Thank you for giving Tom and his family peace of mind at the end of his life, and for giving him the gift of music when he needed it most. Our music therapy program is funded 100% by donations. You can direct your gifts specifically to this special program and bring comfort and joy to people like Tom at the end of their lives.

Thank you!
Impact of Your Gifts

How your donations are helping siblings heal after sudden death of their dad

Charlie Lane loved his kids. He was very involved in the lives of his son, Asher, and daughter, Summer. He picked them up from school each day. He was a very generous man, who made friends with everyone he met.

But on April 24, 2018, Charlie died suddenly. His son was 7, and his daughter was 12. They were devastated.

“We felt lost and raw in our grief,” said Heidi, the kids’ mom.

Not long after Charlie’s death, Heidi learned about Providence Hospice of Seattle’s grief support program for kids. It proved to be a lifesaver for the family.

One of Providence Hospice’s grief counselors met with Asher at his school. And both kids attended Camp Erin®-King County, Providence Hospice’s annual grief camp for kids. The family has been attending the monthly support groups, as well.

“Summer and her dad were best friends,” said Heidi. “She was daddy’s little girl. It’s been helpful for her to have someone say it’s okay to grieve in her own way. Writing has become her outlet for processing her grief.”

For Asher, processing his grief has meant creating more tangible things, such as a luminary.

Thanks to your generous donations, specialized grief counseling was available to help Summer and Asher after the sudden death of their dad.

“As a result of the grief counseling and support they’ve gotten, the kids are much more open to walking through the process of grieving and choosing what works for them,” explained Heidi.

“Without the services of Providence Hospice, we would definitely have struggled a lot more. And we would have felt more alone. Having people say that it’s okay to grieve in whatever way works for each of us has been really helpful.”

Without your generous donations, Providence Hospice’s grief program for kids would not have been there for Asher and Summer. Because of you, they’re getting the help they need. Thank you!

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_________________________________________________________
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☐ I have included hospice in my will.

Mail to:
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