



# BETTER CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

NHH FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2020



**NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS  
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION**  
Better Care for Our Community

PROUDLY  
SUPPORTING

  
NORTHUMBERLAND HILLS  
HOSPITAL

## COMMEMORATIVE GIVING

### A Mother Remembers Her Son

On March 24, 2011, Kyle Read's 18th birthday was celebrated in Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH). It's a day his mother, Elaine Read, remembers not only for her son's milestone age, but for another milestone moment: this was the first day Kyle was able to eat solid food in nearly three months.

Kyle had been the passenger in a car accident on the 1st of that year and had suffered an acquired brain injury. He had to relearn everything – how to walk, talk, and eat – and was left with short-term memory loss. He spent a total of six months in hospital recovering and relearning, two of them at NHH.

Elaine was happy with the care Kyle received at NHH, and the location – only about half an hour from her home in Hastings – made a world of difference for her. Before Kyle was transferred to NHH, he had been in a hospital in downtown Toronto. Elaine had stayed close by and found the change in environment, and bustling city added stress to an already stressful time in her life. She was grateful to have Kyle closer to home when he moved to NHH and was thankful for the friendly staff and excellent care he received.

When Kyle was finally able to move home, his stepfather, Jim Bryan, left his job as a mechanic to stay home and care for him. With the support of his family and medical professionals, Kyle was able to overcome obstacles and accomplish goals he set for himself: he graduated from Campbellford District High School (CDHS) in 2014, started running 5km races, worked at Sharpe's Food Market, volunteered for the CDHS Breakfast Club, and learned to both skate and snowshoe.



Sarah, Elaine, and Kyle Read

Sadly, Kyle passed away on January 25, 2019. Along with his mother and stepfather, he left behind his loving sister, Sarah, and her partner, Mitchell. In memory of Kyle, Elaine chose to make a donation to NHH Foundation as well as to the other hospitals where he had been treated.

For Elaine, giving back to those who cared for Kyle was a way to honour the memory of her smiling, rosy-cheeked son.

## BEQUESTS

Over the past year, we were fortunate to receive several gifts made through people's Wills, known as bequests. Every bequest, large or small, is instrumental in helping us to invest in new medical equipment and technology to ensure our community has access to the best care possible. We're honoured to share the stories of two incredible women who have planned and given bequests over the next couple of pages.

### More Than a Lifetime Helping

Margaret Henderson has lived a full life and throughout it all, has been one to give back to others, supporting causes close to her heart, and donating her time as a volunteer. This value of philanthropy was something she shared with her late husband, Stuart.

Cover Photo - NHH Chief of Staff Dr. Mukesh Bhargava talks with donor Nancy Campbell

Margaret and Stuart met when she moved into a new apartment building where he was also a resident. While checking her mail, she saw him carrying a laundry basket and asked for his help finding the laundry room. After showing her, the two had a nice visit and after their second encounter – when he found her experiencing car trouble with her '57 Chev – he asked her to a football game. A year and a half later, the two were married on April 27, 1963 and began their busy life together.

Stuart worked in quality assurance and the two moved often as he changed roles and companies, with Margaret starting her career in secretarial work and eventually shifting to roles in human resources. They started their life together in Toronto, before moving to the States of Ohio, Massachusetts, New York, and eventually back to Toronto for the final 11 years of their careers. When they were ready to retire, the two wanted to get out of the city and decided to settle down in Brighton, choosing it for its small town, rural feel and pretty landscape. Today, Margaret resides at a retirement residence in Cobourg.

Along with leading an active life that involved golfing, curling, line dancing, and travelling, Margaret and Stuart loved to help others. Margaret volunteered at a women's shelter in Toronto and also became a 'big sister' with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Remarkably, she has kept in touch with her 'little sister,' who was



Stuart and Margaret Henderson, 2007

just 8 years old when the two met, for 42 years now. Together, Margaret and Stuart also helped support a young woman and her children as she struggled to leave an abusive relationship and helped put others through university. Margaret continued her volunteer work after the move to Brighton, reading to children once a week at Goodwill Learning Centre.

Throughout her life, Margaret has suffered from scoliosis, which has caused chronic back pain, but she has not let this hold her back or stop her from helping others. Her drive to help as many as she can, even when she herself was in pain, is a true testament to her character.

Her desire to help has not only been woven throughout the story of her life, but has also held great importance as she plans for the future. After meeting with Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Foundation to gain an understanding of upcoming priorities, she has committed a significant legacy gift to help reach these future goals, specifically planning to support the diagnostic imaging department.

When asked why she's choosing to support diagnostic imaging, Margaret explained she wanted her gift to help as many people as possible. With diagnostic imaging used for such a variety of illnesses, injuries, and routine screening, she feels the services are well-needed and hopes her gift will positively impact the lives of many. In recognition of Margaret's generosity, a naming opportunity at the hospital is pending.

When remembering Stuart, who passed away in 2012, she fondly recounts that though he sometimes gave a gruff appearance, he was soft and caring on the inside, and on top of her desire to help others, she feels this is a gift he would be proud of.

## Remembering Margaret Gear

Margaret Gear led a life with generosity and compassion woven throughout it. She demonstrated these traits not only throughout her 96 years, but also in her final wishes.

As long-time residents of the Town of Cobourg, she and her husband, Dr. Douglas Gear, loved this community. Her family often joked if a role for *Town Cheerleader* was created, she'd be the first to apply and the perfect person to fill the job.

A caring spirit, Margaret was consistently giving back to this community that meant so much to her. Margaret worked with numerous charitable organizations and was a long-serving member of Calvary Baptist Church. She was a recipient of a Paul Harris Award, a June Callwood Award, and an Ontario Volunteer Service Award; and in 2013, was recognized for an incredible 63 years of service with Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Auxiliary.



Margaret Gear

Over her decades of Auxiliary involvement, Margaret volunteered in the Little Treasure Shop, Dialysis, Palliative Care, and with countless fundraising events for the hospital. If there was no answer at home, family knew she was at the hospital.

Margaret loved working in the Little Treasure Shop at NHH, and especially loved doing the rounds to the in-patient areas with the cart. Her kind nature shone through as she visited with patients bringing smiles and conversation as well as goodies to break up the long days in bed.

In addition to serving her community, Margaret cared for her family. Along with Dr. Gear, she raised 5 children and at the time of her passing, her family had grown to include 9 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

With Dr. Gear serving most of his career as a physician at Cobourg District Hospital and Margaret volunteering with the Auxiliary, it was clear both valued the health of their community. When Margaret passed away in the spring of 2019, she bequeathed monetary gifts to both NHH Auxiliary and NHH Foundation, furthering her support of our community hospital.

“During her lifetime, Marg was so generous with both her time and financial resources,” expresses NHH Foundation Executive Director, Rhonda Cunningham. “We are honoured she continued to show her support by including our organizations in her final wishes.”

By leaving these gifts in her Will, Margaret’s legacy of caring for others continues even after her passing.

## 2019'S LEGACY LEADERS

We are pleased to recognize and celebrate the following individuals who remembered the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation in their Will during 2019:

Estate of Cicely Amy Scroggs  
 Estate of Laretta McDowall  
 Estate of David Hubert Graham Norcutt  
 Estate of Mary Margaret Louise Rimmer

Estate of William Evans  
 Estate of John Pincott  
 Estate of Lorne Rutherford  
 Estate of Margaret Gear

For more information on how you can provide for a gift to the NHH Foundation in your Will, or to obtain sample wording, please contact:

Rhonda Cunningham, FAHP  
 Executive Director  
 Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation  
 (905) 377- 7767

## WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

Endowment funds provide financial strength and stability to allow NHH to offer the very best care to our patients in the future, while creating a permanent legacy in support of the hospital.

Funds given to the endowment program are permanently invested and only a portion of the income is expended annually. For the last several years, the annual distribution to the hospital has been invested in ongoing educational opportunities for NHH staff.

As of December 31, 2019, the Foundation's endowment is \$5,479,480.

We proudly recognize and thank all those who have established Named Endowments.

### Named Endowment Funds

Phillips Family  
 Allan & Karen Birney  
 Lynn Hardy  
 A.K. & Bob Sculthorpe  
 Marjory Harris  
 David C. & Bea Roffey  
 Denman Sinclair  
 Carol Knapper  
 Don Morrison Family

Dr. Robert & Ann Scott  
 Leslie Denman Boyd  
 Isobel Milne  
 Rosamond Comrie  
 Bob MacCoubrey  
 James & Heather Irvine  
 Rolph Family  
 David & Esther Patterson  
 General Endowment Fund

Frederick J. & Isabella W. Troop  
 Reba & James Smith  
 Tom & Alice Behan  
 The Giles Family  
 The Novinka Family  
 Ralph, Reginald & Eva Herne

## FAST FACTS ON ENDOWMENT

- Named endowment funds are established at a minimum donation of \$25,000.
- Endowments are held in perpetuity; only a portion of the investment income earned on the principal is spent.
- Endowment funds can be established and named in honour or in memory of a family member or loved one as a permanent tribute.
- You can direct your gift to a special area of interest (e.g. diagnostic, emergency care, etc.)

For more information on the Endowment program, please contact Rhonda Cunningham at (905) 377-7767

## Generosity Springs From Strong Community Roots

Ralph Herne's family roots are planted firmly in Northumberland County, and he's long understood the importance of having quality healthcare available for the friends, family, and neighbours who reside in this community he holds so dear.

In 1912, Ralph's paternal grandparents emigrated from England and settled in the Village of Welcome, where they met and became friends with his maternal grandparents. Through this family friendship, his parents, Reginald and Eva, got to know one another, and their relationship blossomed into marriage in 1935. Reginald and Eva stayed in the community, moving a short distance north to Canton, where they raised three children and farmed for more than 40 years.

Ralph grew up on this Canton farm with his two sisters, Margaret and Patricia. He fondly remembers walking across the fields to get to school in Canton – a much quicker route than taking the road. When the family retired from farming in 1985, they moved to Welcome and following Eva's passing in 2019, the Welcome home was sold and the proceeds divided amongst their children.



Reginald and Eva Herne



Ralph Herne

Ralph himself worked in farming as well as in the restaurant business, but the majority of his career was spent as a custodian at Port Hope High School (PHHS). For 23 years, Ralph had the pleasure of witnessing new generations passing through and growing up.

Prior to the creation of Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) in 2003, Ralph supported the Port Hope and District Hospital; and when NHH was established, he kept the support for his new local hospital going.

Ralph feels having a well-equipped hospital, available to help those who need it in our community is important, which is why he used his share of the proceeds from the sale of the family home to establish The Ralph, Reginald and Eva Herne Endowment Fund for NHH Foundation. This was a way for Ralph to both honour the memory of his late parents, who each received care at NHH, and to give back to the community that means so much to him.

When asked why NHH is important, it is the community feel of the hospital he highlights, sharing, "It takes good care of patients, with good nurses and doctors, friendly staff and volunteers."

"People are always there to help you find where you need to go," he adds.

In addition to establishing this generous endowment fund, Ralph also has planned a gift to NHH Foundation within his Will. It's clear that from his strong community roots, a love for and generosity towards the health of his community has sprung.

## A Loving Partnership

Following the death of her husband, Bob MacCoubrey, in 2008, Sandra, with the help of Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Foundation, established the Bob MacCoubrey Endowment Fund. Bob was a tireless fundraiser for NHH during its conception and construction, and this Fund was created to recognize the importance the hospital had in his life.

Since Bob's death, Sandra was a frequent patient at NHH due to her challenges with Parkinsons and osteoporosis. Her appreciation of the care she received only furthered her desire to support what she affectionately called, "Bob's hospital."

When she was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer in the summer of 2019, she made it



Sandra and Bob MacCoubrey

clear to her four children that donations to the Bob MacCoubrey Endowment Fund should be a priority. The MacCoubrey/Burn families are very thankful to everyone who donated to the Endowment. The legacy of the loving partnership that was Bob and Sandra MacCoubrey will continue to serve and support, "Bob's hospital" and the community of Northumberland County into the future.

## THANK YOU

The stories shared throughout these pages highlight just a small selection of our incredible donors, like you. Many people are not aware the Provincial Government does not typically fund equipment for any hospital. The best hospitals are the ones that have generous communities, and we are so fortunate to have the support of each and every donor, volunteer, fundraiser, and friend. Thank you for helping MAKE CARE BETTER!

If you'd like more information on ways you can support the NHH Foundation, please contact Rhonda Cunningham at (905) 377-7767 or [rcunningham@nhh.ca](mailto:rcunningham@nhh.ca)

## OUR PROMISE TO YOU

- We will always respect your privacy.
- We won't put you under pressure - it's a big decision so please decide in your own time.
- Your family comes first. We know it, we respect it and we won't try and change it.
- We'll use your special gift wisely and effectively.
- You don't have to tell us how much you are leaving to us - we respect your right to privacy.
- We'll answer any questions you have honestly and quickly.
- If you want your gift to be spent in an area that's special to you, we'll do our best to arrange it.

(Source: adapted and used with permission from OXFAM)

## NHH FOUNDATION PLANNED GIVING COMMITTEE

The Planned Giving Committee is an advisory working committee, providing guidance and support for Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation's gift planning endeavours and acting as advocates for the program.

Volunteer committee members are appointed based on their estate, trust, tax, insurance and financial planning expertise. Members generously share their time to help NHH Foundation staff and potential donors receive helpful information.

To learn more about our giving programs, visit [NHHFoundation.ca](http://NHHFoundation.ca).

### Planned Giving Committee

Chair: Kerry Lynch  
Lynch Rutherford Tozer  
Chartered Professional Accountants

Members: Jeff Gilmer  
NHH Foundation Board Chair

Bruce Coleman, Lawyer  
Racine Law

Alison Lester  
Irvine, Lester & Low Lawyers

Meaghan Adams  
Meaghan Adams Law

John Racine  
Racine Financial

Rhonda Cunningham  
NHH Foundation Executive Director

## WANT TO HEAR MORE?

In addition to our bi-annual print newsletters, NHH Foundation shares news and information such as donor profiles, grateful patient stories, staff features, and upcoming events digitally throughout the year. If you'd like to sign up to receive this in your email inbox, visit [NHHFoundation.ca](http://NHHFoundation.ca) to subscribe, or contact [jgilmer@nhh.ca](mailto:jgilmer@nhh.ca) or (905) 372-6811 ext. 3075.

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### Privacy Statement

Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting privacy. We do not rent, sell, or trade our mailing list. The information you provide will be used to keep you informed and up-to-date on the activities of Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation – including programs, services, special events, funding needs, and opportunities to volunteer or to give – through periodic contacts.

If at any time you wish to be removed from any of these contacts, simply contact us by phone at (905) 377-7767 or via email at [rcunningham@nhh.ca](mailto:rcunningham@nhh.ca) and we will be pleased to accommodate your request.