## hospice of holland

Hospice of Holland provides end-of-life care for individuals who have been diagnosed with six or less months to live. Most people have never experienced all Hospice of Holland does for the patient and their family members during this difficult time. When they do, they are deeply grateful. More than medical care, Hospice offers strength, compassion and peace of mind, as we have since 1981.

#### hollandhospice.org





# Keystone MEDICAL SERVICES

Keystone Medical Services focuses on palliative care, addressing the medical, nutritional, emotional, and spiritual needs of a patient in the advanced stages of a serious illness. Patients often experience difficulties caused by symptoms of their disease or side effects of treatment and require special care. Keystone Medical Services is here to provide support, treatment,



and comfort to patients facing these health challenges. Palliative care patients may still pursue curative treatments while also receiving palliative care for improved quality of life.

keystonemedical.org

#### 270 Hoover Blvd, Holland, MI 49423 **p:** 616.396.2972 **f:** 616.396.2808

# As Journeys End...

The Need for Your Financial Support is More Important than Ever.







### **Every Step of the Way**

Randy's experience with hospice care was too short; his wife Nancy was diagnosed with late stage uterine cancer and she passed within a few months. Randy wished he had called Hospice of Holland sooner, but still had time to benefit from our Bereavement Services to help him deal with his loss.

"Our world was just crushed when we received the call that it was cancer," reflected Randy. "I said to her, 'Don't worry, I'll do whatever it takes to be with you in this whole process. Every step. Whatever it takes.'

"After surgery, she still needed chemotherapy, but she got really, really sick. She just could not do anymore, and she got worse. It wasn't too long before the hospital said it was time for hospice, so I immediately said Holland Hospice. They kept her comfortable the last few days of her life.

"Nancy was really a private person, but she wanted me to be there all the time. The night she passed, I had to give her her space. It's hard to step out and give our loved one time to connect with God.



"We worked as a team, a husband and wife team. You know, she would work in the house getting things ready, and I'd be out on the grill getting that ready. We had a great time traveling, we just had a great time being together. Now, when I go home, I turn up on the TV for the noise, I can hear a clock tick on the wall right now. When I go home, I have a lot of pictures. It just feels like she's still there, but it's a big hole in my life.

"The grief counseling service is very, very good. I had one-on-one with Kate here. I could definitely tell her how I was feeling and she gave me advice

on what to do at home, how to deal with being alone now, what I should change up at home and how I should change up in life. I met with group twice a month, for a year. I was so comfortable, I never, never missed one session at all. "We had some laughter too, it wasn't all just tearful. We had some good stories, made us laugh of the good times that we all went through. I brought in some pictures and jewelry. Someone brought in an article or a piece of something that we had each had with our loved ones, we could show to each other, and it was just great. I made some friends. And I had phone numbers, if they just wanted to just get connected, if need too talk again.

"My advice: call hospice right away because it's very, very important to keep your loved one comfortable, and not only your loved one, but yourself for a good peace of mind. They are like family, they're right there to support you. So loving, they will comfort you, take you under their wing like an angel. They're with you every step of the way."



"They are like family, they're right there to support you. They're with you every step of the way."

- Randy K.

Grief counseling and bereavement support is available to families for 13 months after the death of their loved one. We're thankful to Randy for sharing his experience, and shedding light on the value of our Bereavement Services, which are provided free of charge thanks to financial donations from businesses and individuals.

Help us help others during the journey's end.

### Give Today. hollandhospice.org/give-today