# Hearts for Hospice

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## Gulfside Hospice

Winter 2023

#### In This Issue:

Expanded Caregiver Support Program Helps the Helpers

The Candace Glewen Charity Fashion Show is Always in Style

Playing Your Cards Right: Dinner & Bingo Night in East Pasco

Schedule a Gulfside Speaker in 2023

Cliff McDuffie, Caregiver & Donor

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## Holiday Fashions Help Hospice Patients

This year's much-anticipated Candace Glewen Charity Fashion Show, named in honor of long time board member Candace Glewen, was a huge success, raising more than \$43,000 to support Gulfside Hospice patients and families! The event co-chairs Marie Picone and Judith Koutsos poured love and attention into each detail to ensure that everyone had a wonderful time.

The fun-filled event featured an exciting vendor expo, a delicious lunch and the latest fashions from Dillard's at the Shops at Wiregrass with guest emcee, Deiah Riley from ABC Action News. Guests also enjoyed holiday shopping filled with door prizes and prize drawings.





Remembering Marie Picone

It is with great sadness that we share news of the recent passing of Marie Picone, a beloved Gulfside Board Member and Founding Member of the Women for Gulfside. She passed away in Gulfside Hospice's care on Dec. 24 after a brief illness.

Marie first became involved with Gulfside in 1993 when she graduated from the 2<sup>nd</sup> class of volunteers, making her the longest-serving volunteer in Gulfside's history. For many years, she volunteered in our Thrift Shoppes and treasured the friendships she made as she helped our hospice patients and families. Wanting to make a more personal impact, Marie joined Gulfside's Board of Directors in 2000 and served faithfully until her passing.

Marie was especially known for her involvement in many of Gulfside's fundraising events throughout the years. She most recently served as the Co-Chair of the Candace Glewen Charity Fashion Show held just last month on Dec. 6. It was a joy to celebrate the day and the event's success with Marie there, despite her illness.

Marie inspired so many of us with her boundless energy, her feisty determination to get things done and her sense of humor to create fun as we worked together to help Gulfside's patients and families. Marie was truly one-of-a-kind and we will miss her deeply.

# Women for Gulfside Happenings



### Storm is No Contender for Dinner & Bingo Night

Despite Tropical Storm Nicole barreling over Tampa Bay on November 9, Gulfside Hospice supporters traveled to the Dade City Garden Club in Dade City for a hugely successful Dinner & Bingo night. The event was organized and

hosted by Kim Higgins, a Dade City resident and Women for Gulfside member, and raised more than \$2.600!

To ensure that the event proceeds benefited as many patients as possible, Kim covered the club's rental cost and Dawn Enright, a friend and owner of Dinner's Ready in Dade City, provided a delicious dinner at cost to those who wanted to complement Bingo Night with a homecooked meal or take their meal to-go. Their generosity is a shining example of helping those in need in our local community.

Bingo attendees continue to rave about the fun and fellowship they experienced. It's people like Kim and Dawn who help ensure that Gulfside Hospice provides expert hospice care at the end of life to Pasco County residents, regardless of their financial situation.

If you or your business would like to support a Gulfside fundraising event by being a sponsor or donating a door prize, contact Carla Armstrong, Director of Philanthropy, at (727) 845-5707 or carla.armstrong@gulfside.org.



Women for Gulfside are dedicated women making an impact in the lives of Gulfside Hospice patients and their families.

Women for Gulfside (WFG) members support our hospice patients in many ways. Plus, your \$125 Annual Membership provides access to member-only events, updates on new Gulfside initiatives, and the opportunity to choose how funds are allocated.

Join today to make new friends as you help patients and families in our local community.

#### To learn more, visit WomenForGulfside.org.





The first annual Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest highlighted several adorable and scary pets last October all while raising funds for our Pet Peace of Mind® program, which supports hospice patients and their pets during the end-of-life journey. This special fundraiser was hosted by the Women for Gulfside, a women's philanthropy group devoted to supporting hospice patients.

Honorable Mentions included:

This year's awards for Best **Costume and Most Popular** had the same winner: Piper!









Rona

Skye

Sookie

Learn more and make a gift to support the Pet Peace of Mind program at www.GulfsidePets.org.

**Rvlee** 

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You've probably cared for a family member or friend when they've had a bad case of the flu or are recovering from an outpatient procedure. However, someone who provides daily care to a loved one under hospice care typically finds such challenges physically, emotionally, psychosocially, and spiritually draining.

Zephyrhills resident Cliff McDuffie has been caring for his wife, Joyce, since she was told by physicians in April 2019 that she had six months or less to live. That September, Cliff put up the couple's artificial Christmas tree and decorated it because he wanted Joyce to have a nice Christmas. The tree has remained standing since as a reminder that Joyce has rallied, Cliff said.

#### "Exhausting, worrisome, and frustrating" are words Cliff uses to describe his caregiving experience.

"At the beginning, I woke up many times during the night to see if Joyce was alive. The lack of sleep and constant strain really got to me," he said.

While Cliff still finds caregiving challenging, he has found support as a regular attendee of Gulfside's weekly Caregiver Support Group.



Cliff has also taken advantage of Gulfside Hospice's Caregiver Respite Program, which enabled him to get away for five days last September for much-needed rest and relaxation.

Because of people like Cliff, Gulfside Hospice is championing a new Caregiver Support Program that is more inclusive and extensive than those offered by any area hospice or home health agency, according to JoAnn Bross, RN, LCSW, ACHP-SW, Gulfside's Program Administrator and Director of Clinical Social Work and Spiritual Care.

The program's purpose is to provide Gulfside's hospice caregivers with the hands-on training, confidence, and emotional support they need. This new initiative debuted in January 2023 and relies on donations from generous members of our community.

#### Six Important Program Components

- **COMPANION CALLS:** Trained Gulfside volunteers are assigned caregivers to call regularly. Volunteers will listen intentionally, non-judgmentally, compassionately, and respectfully, thereby becoming a "safe" person to whom the caregiver can share feelings. The goal is to decrease the caregiver's sense of isolation and loneliness.
- CLINICAL GROUP SERIES: Gulfside patient caregivers can attend one or more programs in this six-part series. Training will be provided on how to properly bath, groom, feed, mobilize, and transfer their loved one. There will also be presentations that include creating a secure home environment for the patient and understanding the physical signs that typically precede death.



EDUCATIONAL GROUP SERIES: Monthly presentations at Pasco County nursing homes and assisted living facilities will focus on grief; hospice myths; building a support system; caregiver self-care; and considering if facility placement may be appropriate for your hospice loved one.

WEEKLY IN-PERSON PEER SUPPORT: Groups will meet twice weekly so caregivers can express their experiences, struggles, and challenges.

SOCIAL MEDIA/TECHNOLOGY: Gulfside Hospice will share relevant caregiver educational videos and forums via its website and caregivers can submit questions online that will be answered by an appropriate Gulfside team member.



"If you're a caregiver, your life is going to change, and that change is happening to

you. It's important that you learn how to manage your worry because worry can destroy you," Cliff said.

Caregivers like Cliff usually find themselves in unchartered territory, even with Gulfside Hospice's help. As Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance do not cover Gulfside's Caregiver Support Program, the need for donations is great. Your gift will help caregivers like Cliff receive the additional support and services they need to meet this daunting challenge.



Cliff & Joyce McDuffie, 2010

Your gift can help caregivers like Cliff.

As Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance do not cover Gulfside's Caregiver Support Program, the need for donations is great.

Your gift will help caregivers like Cliff receive the additional support and services they need to meet this daunting challenge.

### 3 Easy Ways To Give:





Mail a check made payable to Gulfside Hospice, with Caregiver Program on the memo line. to:

> Gulfside Healthcare Services 2061 Collier Parkway Land O'Lakes, FL 34639 Attn: Carla Armstrong

Scan the QR code with your smartphone



Want to learn more? Call the Caregiver Support Team at (727) 845-5707 for more information,

## In Loving Memory

Gulfside offers a variety of ways to remember your loved ones on our Walls of Caring, in our Butterfly Gardens and with memorial gifts.

From October 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, generous donations were given to Gulfside Hospice from families and friends in memory or in honor of the following loved ones, who will remain in our hearts forever:

Ron Byrd



Wall of Caring James R. Clark

Harold W. Alexander Peter J. Alexander Donald Allen Richard Allison Patricia A. Anderson Richard Andres Sharon G. Backus Ronald Baldwin Patricia A. Ballantine Joseph S. Bankowski Richard A. Banks Leonarda Barbara Jeffrey S. Bartel James E. Beard Mary M. Best Rita Bishop Richard M. Blackwell Reba Blommel George Blust Gerald Bobala Austin P. Bondi Gloria E. Boothby Elizabeth L. Bower Eleanor Brain Thomas Brooks Tommy Brown John Broyhill Jodee Buckley Ralph W. Burk

Gary Calhoun Dixie L. Campbell Lawrence G. Carpenter John E. Celia Eileen M. Chagnon Rodney Choffel Earline O. Churbuck Kathleen M. Coats Kenneth Coats Julia Coiro Robert E. Conlin Annmarie Coudon Maria Cusimano Richard D. Davis Robert Neal Davis Sonya Davis Eugene Day Helen F. Day Ira D. Decker John J. Delamer Irene DePompa Ann DeVito Patricia F. Dickerson William Dieck John A. DiMeo Raymond DiMeo Robert Dorr Louis Doucette Debra Dowling Albert Elms Margaret Elms

James F. Engel Phyllis D. Ensel Billy F. Enzor David Evans Thelma Fasulo Betty Feek Michael Fera KayJuan Fisher Patricia Fisher Robert Flabbi Martha Fleigner Joan Fournier Jeannette Franck Walter Frantz Ralph Frey Galen M. Fronce John J. Fryza Carol Gagner Lois Gainer Roy Gambol Susan A. Gambol Doris A. Garrison Karen Garufi John Geiger Andrea Ghuneim James Gibbs Robert H. Gilbertie Lois Gilley Courtney Glenn Mark S. Goldstein Pedro Gonzalez Agnes Gortou

Marvin E. Goward Diane Grasso Effie Grau Susan Green-Lanus Marilyn Guzzardo Dianne Haberstick Lorraine M. Hadley Stanley J. Hanecki Lois E. Harmak Robert Harvey Raymond J. Harwell Jeanette Hauser Symone Hauser Katherine Heil Eugene Heiter King Helie Dale Hellemn Marie L. Hicks Karen L. Hile Joe H. Hill Madeline Holstrom Rosalie Hubert Kathy Huffman Ann Iadarola Barbara H. James James Jesse Errol Jones Garth S. Jones Peter M. Jones Paul Keberly Juanita T. Kellas Stanley Kendus

Connie B. Kiefer Kathleen M. Kielian Byung Sook A. Kim Thomas S. King Robert G. Klea William S. Klinger Ann T. Kolebar Michael Kolebar Andrew Kovacs Margaret Kubis Paul LaCombe Ballard Lambert Nancy A. Lankenau Richard L. Lechnar Virginia M. Lemkuil Angela Lennon Judith A. Leriger Claire M. Leuschner Edward J. Leviseur Jeffrey Lipkes Warren F. Littlefield Angeline Loysch Carol MacArthur Eunice MacAvoy Zeena J. MacLean Wendy Madaras Ray Maedel John J. Maher James L. Mallison Marie Mantz Olindo Marseglia Juanita W. Marshall

Michael Marshall Robert Mayfield Cornelius McCabe Kitty McClelland Marcella Meehan Constance Miller James Montgomery Charles Morant Mercedes D. Morgan Effie Morris Miriam Murphy Francis E. Murray Thomas F. Muzzio Marianne Nabstedt Patricia Nelson Linda Nielsen Rebecca M. Niles Dolores J. Olson George Onuska Francisco Padilla Geralyn Jo Page Rosalie M. Panebianco Miriam Parker Helen Pate Santo M. Pate

Marjorie M. Pearson Zaida M. Pelaez Margaret Pendergast Leonard Pennington Grace E. Penny Marie Picone Matthew T. Povolny Robert Povolny Zoia A. Prosnikova Michael Pulaski Betty Purdy Robert M. Quandt Gerald K. Radick Mary L. Ranes Richard G. Reitchel Harold Resh Patricia Rich Leo H. Riding Ann Riecan Elleen Riedy Marilyn Rola Clark J. Roman Rosemarie Rosenkranz Paul Rubin Lydia Rutkauskas

Claire Ruvolo Joseph Salatino Joseph A. Salemi Nestor Santiago Elizabeth Savage Robert L. Savage Hildegard Schaeffer Thomas Schafer Jeffrey H. Scharfeld Laurie Schipper Lavina M. Schletty Alfred Schmidt Richard W. Schultz Bonnie Shields Arlyn J. Shook Frances Sikorski Patricia Sims Warren V. Singleton Bonnie Skinner Louise Slingerland Carolyn Smith Eleanor Smith Mabel E. Smith-Hill Joshua Spann Velda R. Stanley

Charles R. Stevens Kenneth H. Strait Mattie Strait Irene Strickland Kareen Stromberg Mary Sutherland Sonja Szabo James Tash Alvaro Tejada Anna Tenaglia Evelyn Thornburgh Joan Tibbitts John E. Tomlin Anthony Tortora Doris Tortora Peter Trentadue Linda J. Tricarico Clarissa L. Trojillo Benjamin M. Turnbull Margaret Turnbull Marie Turro Marie Vaccaro Henry Van de Water Velma Van Dine Betty H. Vian

Jack Viglione William Vorrase Martha E. Wagner Julie Walford Thomas P. Walsh Agnes Warne Donald R. Weissberg Dawn Wensel Regina Wilkes Jim Williams Louis Wissenbach Douglas Worley Charles Youngster Francis T. Zuilkowski

> SCAN ME to learn more about making a memorial gift.



## Save the Dates!

Don't miss Gulfside's signature events coming this spring. Learn more at www.gulfside.org/community-events.

Saturday, February 18: 11th annual Hittin' the Road for Hospice Motorcycle Poker Run The event begins with a roar at 9 am at Harley-Davidson of New Port Richey and ends with a celebration at 1 pm at the Zephyrhills Moose Lodge. Sign up at www.HittinTheRoadForHospice.org.

**Friday, March 31: Charity Casino Night** Try your luck with real casino gaming, prizes, hors d'oeuvres and more from 6:00 - 10:00 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn Tampa-Wesley Chapel. Register at www.CharityCasinoNight.org.

**Tuesday, May 2: Hospice Heroes Breakfast** Hosted by the Women for Gulfside, this first annual event will recognize Gulfside's Hospice Heroes - staff and volunteers who provide extraordinary care to hospice patients. The breakfast will be held from 8:30 - 10:00 am at Plantation Palms Golf Club in Land O' Lakes.

For sponsorship or other details, contact Carla Armstrong, Director of Philanthropy, at (727) 845-5707 or carla.armstrong@gulfside.org.

## **Let's Book It!**



Gulfside Hospice has a team of staff speakers who would be honored to visit your club, organization, or school.

Presentations are complimentary and share an overview of Gulfside's services, as well as our unique support programs: We Salute Veterans, Pet Peace of Mind, Hospice Heroes, Women for Gulfside, Legacy Society, Walls of Caring, Butterfly Gardens, and more.

To schedule a presentation, contact Jane Freeman, Annual Gifts Assistant, at (727) 845-5707 or jane.freeman@gulfside.org



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