

## **Caring Connections**

Summer 2021

## In Memory of Mary

Mary Austin loved BBQ and she loved poker! To honor Mary's memory,

her husband, Clint and daughter-in-law, Becky organized a BBQ and poker tournament with proceeds going to the Elara Caring Hospice Foundation. They hope to make this an annual event. Clint said, "When we could no longer deal with Mary's illness, you showed up and helped when even Mary's doctor would not help her with



Mary Austin is the inspiration for a BBQ and Poker Tournament.

the pain...Your care allowed us to reconnect as husband and wife instead of me just being her caregiver." Thank you to Clint and Becky for sharing Mary's light with us. Your \$1600 donation is helping many in Mary's memory.

## **Grant Spotlight**

We recently awarded the Hospice House of Shiawassee County a \$2,500 grant to help support the services they provide for hospice patients in the community. When a hospice patient is living alone or is living with a family member whose own situation prevents them from providing needed care during the end-of-life journey, the Hospice House of Shiawassee County helps by providing a room and 24-hour supervision. We appreciate their thanks and all they do to support hospice needs in their community.



Thank you card from the Hospice House of Shiawassee



#### Camp Voyage!

If you have a family member or are aware of a child that may be experiencing grief, Camp Voyage can help him/her begin the healing journey.

Campers will connect with other kids who are also grieving, learn to understand grief and to show emotions in healthy ways. This is a camp so of course it will also be FUN!

To register, please contact DeAnne Pratt, at (517) 348-9688 or <a href="mailto:dpratt@elara.com">dpratt@elara.com</a>.

Space is limited for this event, so register early!

### Hearts for Hospice

#### Did You Know?...



Hospice Heart Awards are given to Elara Caring staff members by hospice patients' families and loved ones that want to recognize hospice team

member(s) for their outstanding work. A VERY BIG THANK YOU for those who have taken the time to recognize the meaningful actions of members of their hospice care team. And, CONGRATULATIONS to all the Hospice Heart Award recipients! To see the names of all the hospice heart recipients and to read a few of their bios, connect with us on Facebook @ElaraCaringHospiceFoundation.

In the first six months of 2021, your donations have helped fulfill over 100 grants benefitting hospice patients and families. You've provided financial assistance for utility bills, caregiver support, funerals, and last wish experiences. Without your support, many patients would go without. Thank you for caring. Thank you for sharing your support with us. We could not help others without YOU!

With gratitude,

Los Nulan

Lisa Nielsen Executive Director



# Pet Partners

Pets provide both emotional and physical benefits to humans. This can be especially important to hospice patients as time with a pet can help reduce pain and promote relaxation. In the south, Elara Caring Hospice collaborates with "Pet Partners". Elizabeth has been visiting hospice patients with Emmy Mae since 2014. She and Emmy Mae visit patients in their homes and/or local facilities. Sometimes it is hard to know who enjoys the visits the more: the volunteers or the patients.



Elizabeth & Emmy Mae

One of the easiest ways to support the Elara Caring Hospice Foundation is to do your online shopping with Amazon Smile. Every time you shop at Amazon, the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to our foundation at **no additional cost to you**. For your purchases to help support the ECHF, please:

- 1. Go to Smile.Amazon.com
- 2. Select charity: Elara Caring Hospice Foundation
- 3. Each time you shop, begin at Smile.Amazon.com

amazonsmile You shop. Amazon gives.