



We're 1 of 3 in New Jersey!

Samaritan has been named a 2014 Hospice Honors recipient by DEYTA, a national data collection and analysis organization. This elite award recognizes hospices providing excellent care based on 18 quality measures – as rated by our patients' caregivers.

We are one of only three New Jersey hospices, and 194 hospices nationwide, to receive this honor out of 1,700 hospices that participate in the Family Evaluation of Hospice Care survey through DEYTA.

"This prestigious honor is particularly gratifying," says Samaritan President/CEO Mary Ann Boccolini, "because it represents high satisfaction by the families we serve. It validates our staff's daily commitment to excellent patient care and family support."



5 Eves Drive, Suite 300
Marlton, NJ 08053



Our Hospice Team: Diverse, Caring Experts

Myra Schiffmann Medeiros and her family (see story at right) received personalized help from members of their hospice care team on issues that were important to them. Each patient and family choosing Samaritan's hospice care benefits from a caring team which provides a full range of services. Each team member brings his/her expertise, while the full team meets regularly to ensure seamless, comprehensive attention and comfort for a wide range of physical, emotional, social, and spiritual issues.

Hospice team members include:

- Medical Director / Hospice Physicians
- Patient's Referring and Attending Physicians
- Primary Registered Nurses
- Licensed Practical Nurses
- Certified Home Health Aides
- Primary On-Call Nurses
- Visiting On-Call Nurses
- Social Workers
- Spiritual Support Counselors
- Grief Counselors
- Patient/Family Support Volunteers
- Consultants

Other specialists & volunteers include:

- Nurse Practitioners
- Wound Care Specialists
- Complementary Therapists
- Vigil Volunteers
- Tuck-In Volunteers
- Bereavement Volunteers

Other hospice services:

- Medical equipment and supplies necessary for care of the patient's hospice diagnosis
- Medications necessary for relieving pain and managing symptoms of the hospice diagnosis

For a description of the services provided by each team member, please visit our web site at SamaritanHealthcareNJ.org. Click on hospice.

HELPING HANDS

Pomp Under Difficult Circumstances



Her dream to complete her master's degree seemed out of reach until Myra's Samaritan social worker contacted a caring Rowan University department chair. The result: a unique graduation.

Even the most masterful writers sometimes need help in creating a more satisfying final chapter.

That was the case with Myra Schiffmann Medeiros, a woman who had a way with words – and with people from all walks of life. Her husband, Raymond Medeiros, speaks lovingly of her generous spirit and quick wit, which immediately put anyone she met at ease.

After a long career as an advertising/marketing copy writer for organizations such as The Franklin Mint and Colonial Penn Life Insurance, she founded her highly successful firm, Myra Schiffmann Creative Services.

When she turned 40, Myra's tight-knit group of friends convinced her to use her ad-writing prowess to attract her soul mate. Ray, the love of her life, responded to the well-crafted personal ad that read in part, "Full-bodied, like a bottle of wine...." They were married and inseparable for 22 years.

Upon her retirement, Myra fearlessly set

out to achieve the one dream that had eluded her years earlier: to earn her master's degree in creative writing. She was accepted into the Rowan University Master of Arts in Writing program – one of few such programs in the nation.

She entered a class with students nearly 40 years her junior and thrived! Department Chair Dr. Sanford Tweedie says, "Myra was incredibly well-loved among the students and faculty. She had a presence about her; people would listen to her. She was bright, witty, intelligent, insightful....There aren't enough adjectives to describe her."

In December 2013, as she was about to begin her final semester, increasing fatigue prompted medical tests that revealed advanced lung cancer. By February 2014, Myra and Ray agreed to end her chemotherapy and call Samaritan. The Samaritan hospice team provided physical and emotional comfort. Ray says, "Nurse Patty Martin was fantastic! She came in, knew just what to do, and how to do it. Myra looked forward to her visits."

Anna Giacomponello, a Samaritan social work intern, learned from Ray of Myra's deep regret that she would not graduate with her class. That elusive diploma seemed, once again, beyond reach.

continued inside

'Get Loud FORE! A Good Cause' Golf Tournament



From left: Samaritan Volunteer Gabriel Corti buys lemonade from SamariTeens Julia Ramirez, Rebekah Yeretzi, Jessica Minard and Volunteer Recruiter Sharon Wenner. Lemonade sales raised more than \$150 for Samaritan patients and families.



From left: A foursome from OKI Data Americas, Inc., Treasurer Mike Bozek, VP of Business Planning & Operations Ken Fukano, Senior VP of Finance Joe Reilly, Chief Financial Officer Akio Samata



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From left: South Jersey Magazine's Joe Bianco, Kathy Metzger, Rick DiSiena, and Suzanne Bianco



We Honor Veterans

From left: Social Worker Colleen Fritsch, Frank Blockowitch and Chaplain Anne Butts

Vietnam War veteran and Samaritan hospice patient, Frank Blockowitch received a Burlington County Military Service Medal for his dedication to our country.

During Vietnam, Frank was stationed in Thailand and served as an assistant to the commander. He relayed to his family that he felt like he “never really served” because he wasn’t in combat in the jungles of Vietnam. We think otherwise and appreciate his time in the military. Thank you for fulfilling your duty!

Another Great Golf Tournament

Thank you to Event Sponsor, The Richardson Family Dealerships and all the donors, sponsors, golfers, and volunteers! This year’s annual golf tournament “Get Loud FORE! A Good Cause” raised more than \$153,000 for Samaritan patients and families!



From left: Golf Committee Co-Chair Roy Fazio, The Protocol Group; Samaritan Chief Development Officer Chris Rollins; Co-Chair Cliff Mancine, Mancine Optical; Samaritan President/CEO Mary Ann Boccolini



Winning Foresome from left: Steve Mushinski, Parker McCay; Samaritan Board Member John Gillespie, Parker McCay; Evesham Mayor Randy Brown; Samaritan Board Treasurer Jim Wujcik, Santander

Visit SamaritanHealthcareNJ.org for more photos!

More Privacy, More Comfort, More Rooms Inpatient Hospice Center Undergoes Renovation, Expansion

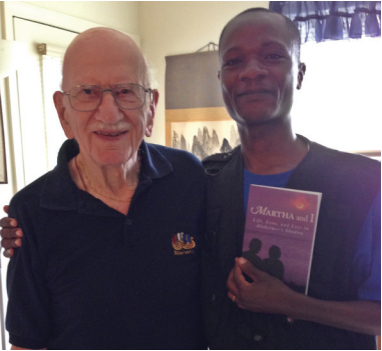


Since its opening in 2005, the Samaritan Inpatient Hospice Center in Mount Holly has offered a comfortable, homelike setting for patients whose pain or symptoms required care best provided in a continuously supervised inpatient setting.

Renovations now under way will enhance that experience. When construction is completed this August, patients and families will receive care in one of 12 private rooms instead of the existing eight private and two semi-private rooms.

For information on how you can support this and other facilities projects on the horizon, contact Chris Rollins at 856-552-3287 or chris.rollins@SamaritanHealthcareNJ.org.

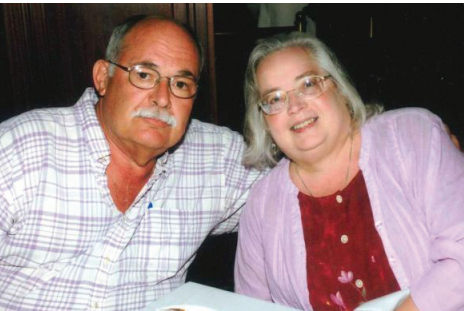
Global Partners from Africa Visit Samaritan



Sarah Komugisha and Gerever Niwagaba of Kawempe Home Care, Samaritan’s “sister” hospice in Kampala, Uganda, spent a week in July at Samaritan engaging in clinical, educational and cultural activities.

From left: Sarah, wearing a prayer shawl knitted by Samaritan volunteers, and President/CEO Mary Ann Boccolini; Family member Donald Fletcher presents a book he wrote about caregiving to Gerever at a hospice home visit

Pomp (continued)



Myra and husband Ray

Anna contacted Dr. Tweedie, who was unaware that Myra’s condition had deteriorated so quickly. He emailed Ray with the idea of a bedside graduation. Dr. Tweedie then worked behind the scenes to make it a reality, while his department evaluated Myra’s body of work. He says of her straight-A portfolio, “She’d written enough that the department felt she met the requirements to receive her degree.”

On Saturday, March 8, Dr. Tweedie and Professors Ronald Block and Lisa Jahn-Clough, gowned in full academic regalia, gathered in Myra’s bedroom along with two classmates and several family members. A recorded ren-

dition of “Pomp and Circumstance” marked the solemnity of the occasion. The university president, provost, and college dean had also offered to attend, says Dr. Tweedie, but Myra and Ray preferred a smaller group.

Myra rallied and said, “Oh, fabulous,” as she thankfully accepted her framed diploma – just three days before she died at age 61.

Ray believes she was holding on for the poignant 20-minute ceremony. While it was emotionally difficult to carry out Myra’s last wish, Dr. Tweedie says, “It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience to have that sort of intimacy in a graduation ceremony; it was an amazing thing.”

He and Ray are grateful to Anna for conveying Myra’s wish. Says Dr. Tweedie, “I found Anna incredibly professional, caring, and concerned with the welfare of the family. The fact that she reached out to me with this idea was great. The most satisfying thing for us was that we were able to give Myra her real degree – not a posthumous one.”

At her department’s graduation symposium in May, Myra’s impact and story lived on. “Students read her work,” reports Dr. Tweedie, “and read work in honor of her.”

Think...Talk...Act The Samaritan Timely Conversations Initiative

We talk about the weather, sports, and breaking news. But too many of us shy away from talking about what matters most.

If a surgery, accident, or serious illness prevented you from speaking for yourself, what would your wishes be? How would you define quality of life? Would anyone but you know the answer?

That’s the point of the Samaritan Timely Conversations Initiative – a community outreach effort encouraging everyone to “Think, Talk, and Act” on their wishes.

Not being able to speak for ourselves is an unsettling prospect that’s hard to think about, much less discuss with others. An April 2014 poll of New Jersey residents found that more than half (54%) of respondents had no written document for their end-of-life wishes, and 38% had never discussed their wishes with their families.

“There are some conversations that should take place more than once around the kitchen table, not in the hospital ICU,” says program leader Joanne Rosen, Samaritan’s vice president of marketing and public affairs.



The new Samaritan initiative suggests that we **THINK** about our wishes using a variety of useful print and online tools. Then, find the right place and time to **TALK** about our wishes with those who are important to us, and learn what matters most to them. Finally, it’s important to **ACT** by writing it all down – and giving copies to family members and healthcare providers.

Plan **now** to make your wishes a reality **later**.

To start your thinking process, contact Samaritan to inquire about a presentation to your community group or for a free copy of “Five Wishes.” Call 856-552-3258 or email christine.alston@SamaritanHealthcareNJ.org.

Please Join Our Circle of Caring



The Circle of Caring recognizes Samaritan’s many generous annual donors, whose ongoing support ensures the gift of hospice for all, regardless of their ability to pay.

The Circle of Caring serves as a living endowment, sustaining such programs as Veterans Hospice, Via Lucis (our Catholic hospice program), Sukkot Shalom (our Jewish hospice program), grief counseling and support, music and massage therapy, and Transitions, our support services for those not yet ready for hospice. Charitable contributions also

support the expansion and renovation now under way at our Inpatient Hospice Center, within Virtua Memorial in Mt. Holly; as well as a soon-to-be-built, free-standing Inpatient Hospice Center in Voorhees.

Giving and recognition levels are:

Friends	\$100
Partners	\$250
Guardians	\$500
Champions	\$1,000

Members of The Circle of Caring are recognized in Samaritan’s annual report and receive our Reflections of Giving newsletter. You may join online at SamaritanHealthcareNJ.org or send your tax-deductible donation to:

Samaritan Healthcare & Hospice
5 Eves Drive, Suite 300
Marlton, NJ 08053

Please feel free to call the Development Office at (856) 552-3287 with any questions or requests.



Car Show Success

Deborah Giacoboni, a Samaritan Home Health Aide, and her husband, John, organized their 7th Annual Car, Truck & Bike Show to benefit Samaritan’s veteran patients and families. The event raised more than \$8,000!

New Board Members

We appreciate their volunteer service!



Lee Shields, CPA

Partner
Friedman LLP

Shields has more than 20 years of public accounting and tax experience. He serves clients in a wide variety of industries, including real estate, manufacturing, distribution, technology, and legal and medical practices.

In addition to his role as partner of Friedman LLP, Shields is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants.



Lawrence M. DiVietro Jr., P.L.S., P.P., A.I.C.P.

President & CEO
LandDimensions
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With more than 27 years of experience in land use, land management, site

development design, land planning and land surveying, DiVietro is a licensed professional land surveyor and professional planner in New Jersey, and a certified member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

DiVietro is an active member of numerous professional associations and organizations, including the South Jersey Builders League, American Planning Association, New Jersey Professional Planners’ Association, Urban Land Institute, and New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors.