



Samaritan's Annual  
Golf Tournament

Sponsored by  
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Monday, June 25, 2018  
Little Mill Country Club  
Marlton, NJ

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# HELPING HANDS

## Introducing Memorial Pavers



### A New Way to Honor Loved Ones

For more than 38 years, Samaritan has been the grateful recipient of memorial gifts from the family members, friends, and colleagues of those who have received our comforting care.

Now it is our pleasure to offer you a new way to create a lasting tribute for the special people in your life – while supporting Samaritan's non-profit mission.

Engraved earth-tone memorial pavers offer permanent expressions of recognition. They will be installed as borders on the walking paths around the gardens at The Samaritan Center at Voorhees – South Jersey's first, free-standing inpatient hospice center.

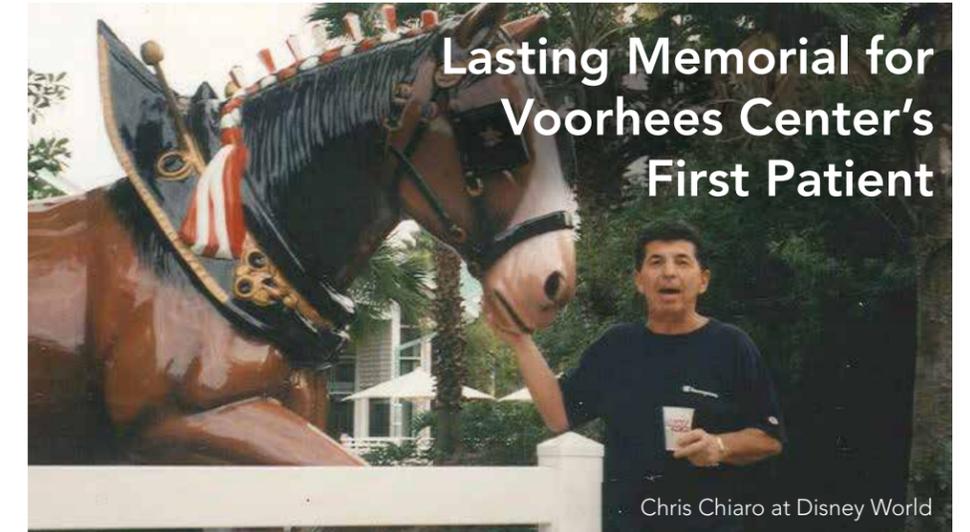
These loving tributes will create a path to the comfort, support, and dignity of hospice care for years to come.

Memorial pavers are available in three sizes:

- 6 inches x 6 inches
- 6 inches x 12 inches
- 12 inches x 12 inches

To dedicate a paver in honor of your loved one, visit SamaritanNJ.org and click on Giving.

For more information, you may also contact Marcy DiBlasio at 856-552-3205 or mdiblasio@SamaritanNJ.org.



## Lasting Memorial for Voorhees Center's First Patient

Chris Chiaro at Disney World

By all accounts, Christopher (Chris) Chiaro, Sr. was the man with the perpetual smile. The down-to-earth guy cracked jokes, relished food, enjoyed fishing with his family, attended his grandkids' events, and looked forward to days at the racetrack with his buddies. He was the oldest of a close clan of cousins who organized dinners for 60 or more family members to keep the love and traditions strong across the generations.

In 77 years, the retired construction superintendent had never been hospitalized until the diagnosis on December 5, 2016 that left him and his family stunned.

Chris' daughter, Bernadette O'Neill, remembers their disbelief when doctors told her dad he was in an advanced stage of cancer. "He was always so 'go, go, go,'" she said. So their family was emotionally unprepared for how fast the disease would spread.

Six weeks later, Chris succumbed to his disease. But it was the care that he received from Samaritan during his last four weeks that prompted his family to be among the first to sponsor two pavers in Samaritan's newly launched memorial program.

Bernadette shared the highlights of this life-changing month.

On December 16, 2016, Chris was at Lourdes hospital for pain management when a doctor suggested the family consider Samaritan's hospice care. With Chris' consent, the doctor arranged to transfer him to The Samaritan Center at Voorhees – Samaritan's newly opened free-standing inpatient facility.

"When we got the call to meet Dad there," recalls Bernadette, "we were not aware of just how new it really was. Dad was admitted around 5:30 p.m. and we found out that he was actually the Center's first patient!"

Director of Inpatient Services Theresa Goldfine remembers, "After nine years of planning, we received the 'green light' to begin admitting patients just hours before Mr. Chiaro needed our care."

Bernadette says, "They responded to every request. They got Dad feeling comfortable. We knew he was feeling more like himself when he sat up in bed asking us to bring him his favorite Italian food."

They were also impressed with the Center's design and decor. "Dad was a construction superintendent who took great pride in doing a job right," said Bernadette. "He knew you had to work with the right materials. So we walked the entire Center during Dad's stay, and knew he would approve of how beautiful and well-constructed it was."

Her family was particularly grateful that the staff got him comfortable enough to send him home, where he wanted to be, for what would be his last December holidays.

Bernadette said, "It's still so hard to realize he's gone. But thanks to the Samaritan angels on both the inpatient and home hospice team, he wasn't in pain. He got to joke with his grandkids like he used to. He got to enjoy Christmas with us, and New Year's Eve at his favorite restaurant."

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# Hands-On Honor and Support



James (Jimmy) Anderson, a World War II Army veteran, was Samaritan's first hospice patient to take part in an Honor Flight. Honor Flight of Southern New Jersey's sole mission is to transport veterans by tour bus to Washington, DC to experience the national monuments dedicated to their service. Trips occur each Spring and Fall.

With the assistance of Samaritan's Joan Ordille, DSW, LCSW, the wheelchair-bound 95-year-old received blessings from his family, medical clearance from his physician, and support from his Samaritan and Virtua Health & Rehab care teams to make the journey last Spring. Charline Gladden, Virtua certified nursing assistant, volunteered to travel with, and assist, him.

The adventure started at 8:00 a.m. when Jimmy and Charline boarded one of five tour buses. They first stopped at the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, VA., then drove by the memorial dedicated to the U.S. Marine Corps.

Before their last stop at the Korean War Monument, they visited The National World War II Memorial. Charline emotionally described how visitors outside the monument stopped and clapped as the veterans and their companions exited their buses. This stop, said Jimmy, brought back memories.

Six weeks after his Honor Flight trip, Jimmy died peacefully. But, those who helped make this experience a reality carry Jimmy's words in their hearts. He said, "I felt honored to go. It feels good to feel like you matter."

Visit SamaritanNJ.org to read the full story about Jimmy's Honor Flight experience.

(800) 229-8183  
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## Pagliario Named Associate Director



Sara Pagliario, DO, a Samaritan Hospice Physician since 2012, has been named the organization's first Associate Director of Palliative Medicine. Dr. Pagliario will help lead, mentor, and grow Samaritan's Palliative Medical Partners practice which provided 6,877 consultations in 2017.

The practice helps patients achieve the best quality of life throughout the course of their illness – even while receiving curative

treatments. Pagliario helps patients find the strength to carry on with daily life, improve their ability to tolerate medical treatments, and gain more control over their care by understanding their illness and treatment options.

"I understand the quality of my patients' life will be defined by them and their families. My team's job is to help them realize their care goals, and to reframe their goals as the disease progresses," she says.

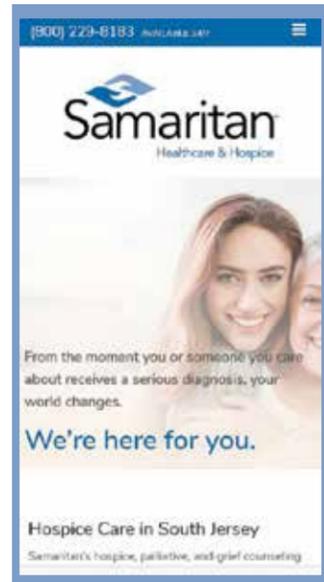
Visit SamaritanNJ.org for more information about palliative medicine.

## Updated, Mobile-Friendly Website

Check out SamaritanNJ.org – Samaritan's newly updated website. The mobile-friendly site features a clean, modern look with easy-to-navigate menu options.

The comprehensive site is a go-to source for information on hospice care, palliative medicine, and grief support. Visitors can access end-of-life conversation starters, get a free copy of *Five Wishes*, an easy-to-understand advance care planning tool, and learn about the many ways to support Samaritan's non-profit mission through giving or volunteering.

We also invite you to click on Contact Us > Send Thanks and tell us about your Samaritan experience. Visit today!



SamaritanNJ.org

Center's First Patient continued from front

They were particularly touched by Spiritual Support Counselor Betty Warner who came within the hour of Chris' passing. "As Catholics, we appreciated her bringing us Communion as we prayed around my dad's bed. We were so touched when she laid a knitted prayer afghan, made by volunteers, on the bed as a memento from Samaritan. Each family member there blessed my dad with holy water."

As the family mourned their vibrant patriarch, they looked for meaningful ways to honor his memory. Chris' obituary requested gifts to Samaritan. But they also wanted something lasting and tangible at The Samaritan Center to honor his special status as its first patient.

When the first series of pavers are installed later this year around the garden walkways, there will be two honoring Chris: One from his wife Ginny with the words *My Beloved*, and one from his children and grandchildren with the words *Dad, GPop* plus a horseshoe to recall his many happy hours at the track.

It will be comforting, says Bernadette, to have other anxious families tread those walkways, knowing that those who came before them contributed to the supportive care they'll receive. Bernadette has also taken her dad's tribute one step further: After waiting the required 13 months of bereavement, she has trained to become a volunteer greeter at The Samaritan Center at Voorhees.

"I know how important it is for people walking through the door to be greeted with a smile, maybe a hug, just a small kindness from a stranger who's been in their shoes."



## Why Become a Volunteer

Many Samaritan volunteers tell us they were so moved by the care their loved one received that they want to give back in a meaningful way.

Hospice volunteers have diverse opportunities to share their time and talents, whether in a patient's home, in the office, or in the community.

Susan B. became a Samaritan hospice volunteer after her mother received hospice care at home. She watched the compassionate hospice team care for her mom. Each day, the group of professionals offered thoughtful words and supportive actions to help her whole family through that difficult time. She knew right away that she wanted to join the team as a volunteer to replicate the kindness she and her mother experienced.

Susan gives back by providing companionship to our patients each week. She values this special time getting to know a patient and feels she gets as much – or more – than she gives. Research has shown that volunteering helps promote satisfaction and self-worth. Plus, it's good for your mind, body, and spirit!

We welcome you to bring the experience you already have or to broaden your horizons by learning new skills.

If you're interested in volunteering, visit SamaritanNJ.org or contact Sally Cezo at (856) 552-3235.

## Successful Gala Benefits Patients & Families



Samaritan's Celebration of Life Gala Honoring Our Community's Veterans, presented by **Holman Enterprises**, raised \$215,000 for our programs and services benefiting seriously ill patients and their families, and those grieving a loss – including more than 500 veterans Samaritan cares for each year.

► **Honorary Celebrants:** Captain Joseph P. Costabile, MD; Donald M. Tretola; Kristi M. Howell; Major General Steven J. Hashem, (Retired); Debra P. DiLorenzo

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Thomas Edison State University  
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More event photos  
at SamaritanNJ.org



**Chairs and Committee:** Linda Delamar; Anita Bremer; Raffle Chair Theresa Savage; Gala Chair Sarah Adelman; Mary Depew, Auction Chair Lindsey Watson-McCarthy, Theme Chair Kathy Dugan



New Jersey Army National Guard 117th Combat Service Support Battalion Color Guard



Akosah and Abigail Ayitiah



Lee and Lorraine Sheilds; Melissa and Dr. Russell Mordechai



Mary Ann Boccolini; Kathleen Waugh, widow of hospice-veteran patient; Claude Schmid, veteran-to-veteran patient volunteer



Theresa Goldfine, Dr. Stephen Goldfine; John Gillespie, Kate Gillespie

## New Board Members



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