Volunteering

Volunteer Spotlight

Through the year, this page will introduce you to some of our wonderful volunteers who each share their talents in their own special way.

Coming Full Circle - A Story of Friendship and Devotion

They shared similar stories and interests - and now their 14-year friendship has taken a new poignant turn.

Inspired by the care her dying husband received from Samaritan Hospice, Jackie Cunney (left) of Haddonfield was determined to give back to the organization that gave so much to her family during a difficult time. She signed up for a training class and became a Samaritan volunteer in 1992. Since that time, she has been assigned to visit countless patients and families offering companionship and respite - activities she has faithfully documented in a journal she keeps about her Samaritan experiences.

In 1994, another Haddonfield woman faced a similar path to serving Samaritan. Very soon after her husband received Samaritan's services, Marjorie (Marge) Smith (right) called Samaritan to volunteer. Samaritan informed her that she must wait at least a year after her husband's death to process her own grief before helping others with theirs. One year later - to the day - Marge called Samaritan again, successfully completed training and became a patient volunteer in 1995.

It was at a volunteer education meeting that Jackie and Marge met and became for-the-rest-of-their-lives friends. Because of their affinity for each other and their proximity to each other, Jackie would pick Marge up and they'd drive together to all Samaritan volunteer meetings and recognition events.

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Jackie agreed as she savored every moment with the friend/patient who will surely occupy a very memorable place in her journal...and in her heart.

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