

hospice[™]
of washington county

MOMENTS MATTER 2021 SUMMER UPDATE

ALLAN POWELL: A PATIENT STORY

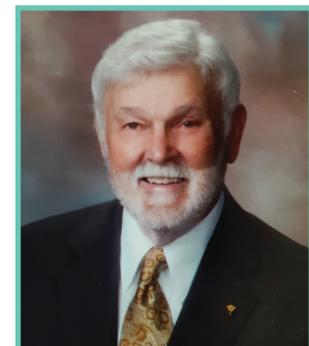
Written by Joan Powell

My dear husband, Allan Powell, was an accomplished individual. He was one of ten children born into poverty during the Great Depression. At an early age, he realized that in order to achieve his goals, he would need to focus on his education. Therefore, throughout his life, he devoted much of his time to reading and writing.

Allan was a philosopher, professor, author, historian, and lecturer. He had boundless energy, and he played as hard as he worked. Allan was well known as an expert fisherman and a strong swimmer who waded the Potomac and always returned with his limit. At a young age, Allan played the harmonica and it was by his side while he was overseas during WWII. He was a gifted musician, and he had a song for every occasion.

When I met Allan, it was love at first sight for both of us. We immediately recognized the qualities we admired in each other; and for 50 years, we marveled at how fortunate we were.

Allan planned everything in life, including his end of life. Since Allan had an advanced directive, his final wishes were clear. When we realized that Allan wasn't going to recover from his heart attack, we welcomed Hospice care. It was a tremendous relief when he was made comfortable and was able to come home after three days in the hospital. With the daily help of Hospice nurses, he spent three good weeks at home. As they cared for Allan's needs, they also supported our family's emotional needs. We found this to be invaluable as we coped with Allan's impending death.



Allan Powell

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Patient Story Continued...

When Allan required intensive care, he was taken to Doey's House - an extraordinarily beautiful and serene environment. Their attentive staff took a genuine interest in Allan's life, and they made us feel like family. The suite was ideal for Allan's comfort and ours. We knew that he was receiving excellent care and we could focus on our last days with Allan.

We were particularly impressed with how Hospice respects the patient and family's spiritual needs. Chaplain Musgrove listened to our family's concerns and greatly lifted our spirits.

Allan rested peacefully at Doey's House for a week before he passed. Hospice far exceeded our expectations in every way imaginable, and we will be forever grateful for everything they did for Allan and our family.

Allan died March 29, 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and the disease prevented us from having a funeral. In order to have a funeral befitting Allan and his extraordinary life, we had to wait 14 months. Not having closure was extremely difficult.

On May 29, 2021, we were finally able to celebrate Allan's life with a beautiful memorial service and burial. Once again, Hospice was at our side as Chaplain Duane Musgrove conducted the service and ministered to the family.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Teen Summer Support Group

Every Tuesday starting July 6th - August 10th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Six-week group for grieving teens, ages 13 – 19. All group sessions will be held at the Hagerstown branch of the library located at 100 S. Potomac Street.

Celebrations Celebrity Waiter Challenge August 19th - September 24th

We're putting the "fun" in fundraiser! This month-long event will begin with a food truck event on August 19th at the parking lot at 747 Northern Avenue and end with a special Celebrity Waiter Dinner and Drive-Thru event on September 24th at Fountain Head Country Club. This year's event will be a hybrid of virtual and in-person events. Celebrity waiters are asked to participate by raising funds during the event period. For more information, visit hospiceofwc.org.

C & O Canal Days Cruise in Car Show

Saturday, August 28th - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

10702 Hopewell Road, Williamsport, MD; All cars welcome, no judging. Come see the Bowman Museum with 100+ new & restored cars and trucks. Proceeds benefit Doey's House. Show vehicles registration is \$10 per vehicle. Car corral is \$20 per vehicle. Public parking is free but donations are appreciated.

DoveTales Children's Grief Camp

DoveTales is for children, ages 6 – 13, who are coping with the death of a loved one. DoveTales is an educational and nurturing program for children to share their "Tales" and meet others who "get it." There is no cost to attend the annual DoveTales program. Stay tuned for details.

Business Breakfast

Wednesday, November 10th, 2021.

Details to be announced.

Hearts of Hope

HWC is continuing to serve the community with Bereavement Services. Hearts of Hope is available via Zoom (an online video chat platform). Hearts of Hope is an ongoing, open support group available to any adult who has experienced a death of a loved one. Individuals can use Zoom on their computer, tablet, or smartphone. Participants can utilize the video and audio, or simply the audio feature. If you would like to participate or have questions, please contact Maria Reed at mdreed@hospiceofwc.org by 10 a.m. the day of the session.



CEO CORNER

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO, ERNESTO LOPEZ

The COVID-Pandemic began over one year ago, and its impact on the world has been profound to say the least. Hospice of Washington County has felt its impact and has forced us to adapt in a number of different ways. Despite the challenges, the organization has been resilient and continues to uphold our mission of quality end-of-life care for our community regardless of the circumstances. However, aspects of our operations have had to change, and these changes will shape how care is provided to patients and their families for many years.

The first major change that we adopted was the use of telehealth. We have been able to leverage the benefits and efficiencies of this tool and created greater access to all of our patients and their families. By integrating telehealth into our regular patient visit schedule, our staff is able to extend access, rapidly communicate, and enhance the patient family experience.

The pandemic also brought significant change to how we utilized our beloved volunteers. With in-home volunteer visits excluded and the use of volunteers throughout the organization limited we have now started to slowly integrate their valuable support into needed areas such as Doey's House, Bereavement, and interdisciplinary team support. We have also incorporated new tools in some of our volunteer protocols. A good example of this is our Veterans' Committee utilizing the Zoom™ Web-Based Application to do Veteran's Pinnings Ceremonies. This has allowed patient's families from all over the world to take part of this very important moment in our patient's lives.

Through the pandemic, Doey's House has showcased its importance in our community. Our inpatient unit has continued to care for patients that need intensive palliative care while focusing on providing our patient's comfort and

dignity. Soon, we will be beginning our Oxygen Ventilation Project in which oxygen will be piped into specific patient rooms, enabling us to support ventilators and patients that require complex or high levels of oxygen. These new capabilities will allow for earlier transitions from the hospital to Doey's House. This project is only available due to the generosity and support of our community!

Our organization also has had to re-educate the education we provide referral sources and the community about the importance of moving eligible patients into hospice earlier which is a paramount concern for the sake of our patient's quality of life. As well as, a greater number of overwhelmed providers in our area are seeing the benefits of palliative support and seeking it out for their patients; therefore, causing a larger demand for our LifeCare Services.

Our Bereavement Department has also been in high demand. It has experienced a significant increase in the number of calls not only from our hospice families but also from community residents that have had a loss for any reason such as a loss due to suicide, drug overdose, sudden death or other reasons. Mental health personnel are often not fully trained on helping patients manage grief, loss, and bereavement. And regularly, our organization is where our neighbors turn for help; and we do not charge for any of these services.

It is evident that this year has tested our organization, and we have had many challenges and hardships. However, the resilience of our staff, volunteers and contributors have prevailed. Although we are not through our challenges, we know moving forward that working together with the community, HWC will continue providing quality end-of-life care for our loved ones and neighbors for future generations.

Thank you
Prophets of the
Abstract Truth for
performing today!

DEVELOPMENT



WJEJ RADIO-THON RAISES \$40,000 FOR DOEY'S HOUSE

Listeners of WJEJ Radio raised over \$40,000 during the 8th Annual "Have A Heart for Hospice" Radio-Thon. The proceeds will support Doey's House, Hospice of Washington County's (HWC) in-patient unit and the only hospice house in Washington County. The event was held on May 1 at HWC's office parking lot at 747 Northern Ave.

"We are so very honored that WJEJ and Lou Scally continue to work with our organization on the Radio-Thon Event," stated Karen Giffin, HWC's Associate Vice President of Mission Advancement. "Mr. Scally and WJEJ are long-time supporters of HWC and making sure their neighbors have quality end-of-life care. Because of this passion for quality end-of-life care for everyone in the community, WJEJ's commitment and the commitment of their listeners has grown each year."

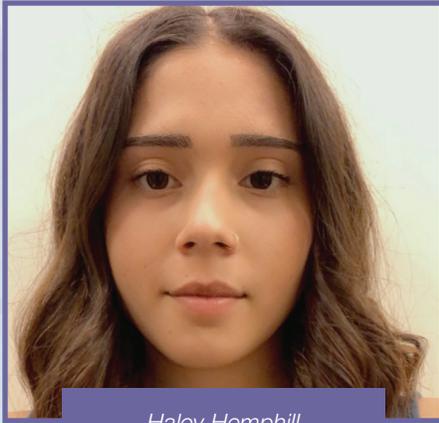
"Many people have been touched by the services and programs of hospice in our community," stated Lou Scally. "We were very proud to be a part of

building Doey's House. It has had a positive impact on many people in our community, and we want to ensure that the care given at Doey's House continues for many years to come."

During the Radio-Thon, listeners were able to call in, donate and win prizes. We thank the prize donors including Gordon's Grocery, Grease Monkey, Fosters On the Point, Grille at Runways, Red Lobster, and Krump's Do-Nut Shop. Chick-fil-A provided lunch.

In addition to raising funds for Doey's House, the event helped to make the community aware of the many benefits of hospice care.

"We would also like to say thank you to all the volunteers and donors," stated Ms. Giffin. "We could not have had such a successful event without your hard work and commitment to our organization."



Haley Hemphill



Lisa Harris



Victoria Ferguson

THE 2021 KASS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED!

To honor Dr. Frederic H. Kass III's tireless efforts, Hospice of Washington County's Board of Directors established the Frederic H. Kass III, M.D. Endowed Scholarship Fund. This fund is designed to support students in Washington County pursuing a career in the healthcare field. The fund is made possible by individuals and organizations who have given generously to encourage these pursuits. Scholarship recipients for 2021 are Haley Hemphill, Lisa Harris and Victoria Ferguson.



ANNUAL SHRED EVENT RAISES \$3,600 FOR CHARITY CARE

Over 6,600 pounds of paper shredded and over \$3,600 raised over for Hospice of Washington County's Charity Care at the Shred Event held on June 12th in the parking lot at 747 Northern Ave. in Hagerstown. Special thanks to our sponsor, Jim Gullace of First Home Mortgage, for underwriting our All-Shred Truck; and of course, thank you to everyone who attended for helping us help our patients. Pictured here is Lou Scally of WJEJ; Karen Giffin, HWC's AVP of Mission Advancement; Sponsor Jim Gullace of First Home Mortgage and Gary Marson of All-Shred.



A UNIQUE COURSE FOR CELEBRATIONS – CELEBRITY WAITER EVENT

Hospice of Washington County (HWC) is putting the “fun” in fundraiser with a different twist on their event entitled Celebrations. The event will begin with a food truck event on August 19th at the parking lot at 747 Northern Ave. and end with a special Celebrity Waiter Dinner and event on September 24th at Fountain Head Country Club.

This year’s event will be a hybrid of virtual and in-person events. Celebrity waiters are asked to participate by raising funds during the event period. There are a variety of fundraising tools that can be used. Activities can be virtual or in-person as long as they are done within CDC and State of MD COVID guidelines. Waiters will be competing for “The Silver Platter” Award. Waiters will be awarded points based on fundraising dollars from activities.

“The unique part of this event is the Celebrity Waiters who compete to outdo each other,” stated Cynthia Perini, Co-Chair of the Celebrations Event. “And when we say celebrities, we are referring to our community celebrities who want to assist Hospice of Washington County.”

“Our Celebrities will also be able to earn points in a variety of ways during the month. At the closing event, they can wear crazy clothing items, sing an a cappella version of a latest hit or oldies song, dance the hula or any other creative way that the waiter can find as an opportunity,” stated

Christy Turner, Co-Chair of the Celebrations Event. “We have had to recreate this event due to COVID-19, but we know this will be a fun and meaningful event.”

Along with the activities of the Celebrities, there will be an online silent auction. “We also have a number of unique sponsorship opportunities for our businesses and organizations,” stated Ms. Turner. “At certain levels, a business will become part of our corporate giving society, The Redwood Society. This is a great way for businesses to participate in the event and simultaneously help Hospice of Washington County.”

Net proceeds from the event will assist Doey’s House. As the exclusive licensed provider of hospice care in Washington County, Maryland, HWC’s goal is to surround the patient and their family with a personal team of professionals who know how to manage even the most difficult situations. Hospice of Washington County, Inc. was established in 1980 for the sole purpose of lending support to those facing a terminal illness and their families. When HWC was created, it was a small, all-volunteer organization. HWC has now grown into an organization employing nearly 140 and serving over 200 patients a day.

If you would like more information on the event, please call 301-791-6360.





THE PINK DONUT FOUNDATION

The Pink Donut Foundation, which was created in memory of Sommer Kretsinger, donated \$1,000 to Hospice of Washington County (HWC) for the DoveTales Camp.

The Foundation was born out of a dream of two special ladies, Sommer Kretsinger and Amy Krumpé, who were on a journey to fight breast cancer and to come alongside those struggling during their cancer journey. Their mission was to give back and support local community members that are faced with the challenges brought by a battle with breast cancer. Sommer Kretsinger, a Smithsburg resident who passed away from breast cancer in October of 2020 at the age of 42, was a force of nature. She was a mother, wife, daughter, sister, and aunt. She was a teacher, a colleague, a mentor, an artist and an amazing friend to so many. Her legacy will continue to live through the work of the Pink Donut Foundation.

Both Amy and Sommer worked in the education field, and with the mission of the DoveTales Camp

being an educational, nurturing, and safe place for children to talk with one another and to learn effective, practical skills for coping with their grief, it was a great fit for the foundation to help fund. DoveTales Camp is specifically designed for grieving children between the ages of six to thirteen.

“On behalf of the Hospice of Washington County bereavement team, we are sincerely grateful for the Pink Donut Foundation donation,” stated Maria Reed, Bereavement Counselor for HWC, “DoveTales is truly a result of community collaboration and generosity, and the program strives to honor and support grieving families. These funds afford the opportunity to serve and provide resources to children, as well as offer hope and healing to our community. Thank you to the Kretsinger and Krumpé families!”

For more information on any of HWC’s Bereavement Programs please call 301-791-6360.



ROSIE THE ROBOT

HWC DEPLOYS LIGHTSTRIKE ROBOT IN DOEY'S HOUSE TO DESTROY GERMS AND ENHANCE CLEANLINESS

As healthcare facilities look for new and innovative ways to battle viruses and bacteria that can lurk on high-touch surfaces, Hospice of Washington County (HWC) has taken a leap into the future with a LightStrike Germ-Zapping Robot that quickly destroys microscopic pathogens in hard-to-clean places. Named "Rosie" by the HWC Staff, the robot is being used to disinfect rooms and areas throughout Doey's House, the only in-patient unit in Washington County. It is the first and only hospice in Maryland to deploy a LightStrike robot from Xenex, a world leader in room disinfection technology.

With the world's focus on preventing the spread of COVID-19 and recognizing that superbugs are becoming increasingly resistant to cleaning chemicals, antibiotics and even some hand sanitizers, healthcare facilities are turning to new technology to enhance their cleaning protocols. Microorganisms that can cause infections, such as *Clostridium difficile* (C. diff), methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), and vancomycin-resistant *Enterococci* (VRE), often lurk on high-touch surfaces in healthcare facilities. The LightStrike robot is proven effective at destroying Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes COVID-19, on surfaces.

Doey's House was designed for HWC patients and their families to provide a comforting setting when pain and symptoms need to be managed in a professional environment.

"People count on Hospice of Washington County to make each day the best that it can be. Our goal is to provide high quality care to support our patients' physical, emotional and spiritual needs in a uniquely designed environment. One of our priorities is making sure that our facility is as clean as it can possibly be, which is why we are so excited about adding Rosie to our disinfection strategy. It's an additional step we are taking to ensure patients and their families that they are entering the cleanest environment possible," said Ernesto Lopez, Chief Executive Officer for HWC.

LightStrike Germ-Zapping Robots use pulsed xenon to create intense bursts of broad spectrum ultraviolet (UV) light that quickly destroy bacteria and viruses on surfaces without damaging materials in the room. The robot works quickly and does not require warm-up or cool-down time, so facilities are able to disinfect dozens of rooms per day (per robot). More than 40 peer-reviewed studies have been published in academic and medical journals validating the efficacy of the LightStrike robot disinfection technology.

HWC's LightStrike robot can disinfect a patient room in 10-15 minutes. Operated by the facility cleaning staff, it is being used throughout Doey's House, including the facility's 12 private suites, restrooms, general patient care rooms, family room, children's play areas, family kitchen, and public spaces.

HOSPICE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

NURSES WEEK 2021:

A Voice to Lead. A Vision for Future Healthcare. We Celebrated our Current and Future Nurses.

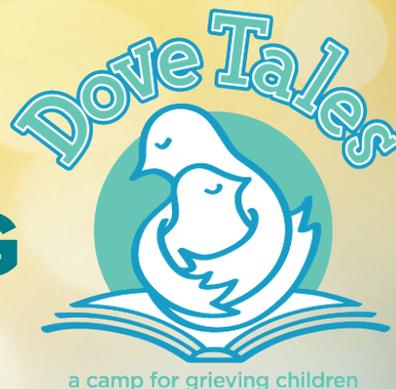
NURSES WEEK
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MAY 6-12
2021

Amy
Charles
Phyllis
Stacy
Catherine
Michelle
Carrie Portia
Melissa
Nayyara
Pam
Nicole
Kimberly
Lori
Jessica
Dylan
Debra
Stephanie
Rhonda
Cara
Lynn
Tammy
Jeannie
Kristin
Heather
Tracy
Priscilla
Benjamin
Stephanie
Courtney
Diane
Tiffany
Gail
Carina
Evelyn
Tina
Deidre
Cristina
Cheryl
Jeff
Donna
Mary
Anna
Helen
Karen
Kathleen
Habebah
Rhonda
Angela
Jamie
Danielle
Billie
Marcia
Chloe
Karli
Catherine
Shanna
Tim
Rose
Casey
Kathy
Allyson
Tara
Sally
Tina
Yolanda
Teresa
Ryan
Mary
Dawn
Kristi
Tonja
Amanda
Karen
Joey
Joanne
Jessica
Danielle
Brenda
Kari
Katie
Tina
James
Patricia
Caitlin
Karen
Mary
Becky



THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

CHILDHOOD GRIEF: DOVETALES IS COMING SOON IN FALL 2021!



DID YOU KNOW?

According to New York Life Foundation, national data from the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model (CBEM) recently suggests that 6.8 percent of children will experience the death of a parent or sibling by age 18. This means that there are nearly 5 million children and teen in the USA who are coping with significant grief and loss.

Grief is the emotional, cognitive, behavioral, spiritual, and physical response to loss. It's important to consider the developmental responses to grief and loss across the lifespan. Children, as young as infants and toddlers, can experience grief. As children grow, their unique response to grief changes too.

The National Alliance for Grieving Children (NAGC) offers insightful education and advocates for awareness for families who are coping with significant loss. According to the NAGC, here are a few helpful things to keep in mind as you support children who are grieving:

- Grief is a normal reaction for children to the death of someone significant.
- Children need to know the truth.
- Each child's grief is as unique to him or her as was their relationship with the deceased.
- Grieving children often feel alone and misunderstood.
- Children will experience grief over the death of significant people at different times throughout their lives.
- Grieving children often experience personal growth as a result of their loss.
- Grieving children feel less alone when they are with other children who have experienced the death of a significant person and when they have loving, consistent adults in their lives.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

The Bereavement Counselors at Hospice of Washington County are available to offer individual and group support to children and families.

DoveTales is designed for children (ages 6 – 13) who are coping with the death of a loved one. DoveTales is an educational and nurturing program for children to share their “Tales” and meet others who “get it.” Children and families will have the opportunity to build meaningful connections, as well as learn effective and practical skills for coping with their grief.

There is no cost to attend the annual DoveTales program. Hospice of Washington County is excited to plan and offer DoveTales in the Fall of 2021. Stay tuned for details about this special program! Hospice of Washington County invites families, as well as adult volunteers, to contact the Bereavement Department at 301-791-6360, email Maria Reed at mdreed@hospiceofwc.org, or visit our website, hospiceofwc.org.

For more information about bereavement resources and education:

- Hospice of Washington County Bereavement - hospiceofwc.org/grief-education
- New York Life Foundation - www.newyorklife.com/foundation/bereavement-support
- National Alliance for Grieving Children - childrengrieve.org
- Coalition to Support Grieving Students - grievingstudents.org/
- Dougy Center - www.dougy.org/
- Eluna Network - elunanetwork.org/resources/

TEEN GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: SUMMER 2021

Teens (ages 13-19) deal with a wide variety of developmental milestones, so their experience in coping with grief and loss is unique. Teens may avoid talking to family members about their feelings or about the person who died. This reaction is common because teens want to actually protect their family members. For example, many teens will say “Whenever I mention my loved one, it makes mom/dad/grandparent cry. I don’t want them to feel worse so I just don’t talk about him/her.” Therefore, it is developmentally appropriate and normal for teens to seek support from peers. As a caring adult, you can let a teenager know that you WANT to know how they are doing. Reassure them that even if you cry, you will be OK and connecting with them is more important to you than avoiding tears.

So, how can you help promote healing and healthy grief work for a teen who is grieving? Encourage teens to consider using creative ways to express themselves through music, writing, or art. Remind them to take care of themselves, and to avoid self-destructive behaviors. Inspire them to connect with other teens who “get it” by joining an online or in-person support group!

Hospice of Washington County is partnering with the Washington County Free Library again this summer to offer the annual Teen Grief Support Group program. Teens (ages 13 – 19) who are coping with the death of a friend or family member are invited to join this six-week program. The HWC Bereavement Team is collaborating with the Young Adult Department at the Hagerstown branch of the Washington County Free Library. The first session will be held on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. All group sessions will be held at the Hagerstown branch of the library located at 100 S. Potomac Street. Teens are welcome to attend group sessions in-person (and adhere to current COVID-19 guidelines), or join virtually via Zoom.

Teens and families who are interested in participating in this summer grief group are encouraged to contact Maria Reed, Bereavement Counselor, at 301-791-6360, or email mdreed@hospiceofwc.org. Teens are also invited to stop by the WCFL Hagerstown branch to talk to Young Adult Librarians Ann or Jay to learn more about the group and resources.

*The first session will be held on
Tuesday July 6, 2021 at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.*





Hospice of Washington County, Inc.
747 Northern Ave.
Hagerstown, MD 21742
(301) 791-6360
www.hospiceofwc.org

SPONSOR A DOVETALES CAMPER



MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A YOUNG GRIEVING CHILD

Sponsor a camper to DoveTails for \$200! DoveTails is a special camp designed for children who have experienced the death of a loved one or a significant loss. It is an educational, nurturing, and safe place for children to talk with one another and to learn effective and actual skills for coping with their grief. Individuals can sponsor a camper for \$200, which will underwrite all of their materials, food, and supplies.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)		PHONE
NAME OF BUSINESS (IF APPLICABLE)		BUSINESS PHONE
ADDRESS (INCLUDE CITY, STATE & ZIP)		EMAIL
Billing address (if different from above)		
ADDRESS		
NAME ON CARD	CREDIT CARD #	
SIGNATURE OF DONOR(S)	EXPIRATION DATE	SECURITY CODE

Please mail to:

Hospice of Washington County – DoveTales Program, 747 Northern Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742
Questions? Please call us at 301-791-6360 or email info@hospiceofwc.org.