

HONORING A LIFE AND OUR HEALING GARDEN



Lynne Ruffin-Smith Charitable Foundation donates \$50,000 to recognize St. Rose employees

“St. Rose cared for my wife when she was sick, and I saw how hard the staff worked and how dedicated they were to her,” says R.T. Smith. “I felt it was important to recognize the employees with a donation and to thank them for their humankindness.”



Lynne Ruffin-Smith Charitable Foundation

“It’s a good day to have a good day.” – Sherrie Gahn

Stephen “Steve” Gahn lived his wife’s favorite phrase throughout his seven-month fight against a highly aggressive form of leukemia. He made each day that he was hospitalized a good day by completing a two-mile walk through the hallways, meeting Sherrie in the Healing Garden to talk and play with their puppy, and doing his utmost to make his oncologists laugh.

“We had a strong marriage and our last months together were wonderful because Steve’s doctors helped him live life with cancer on his terms,” says Sherrie, referring to oncologist Rupesh Parikh, M.D. and internist Jennifer Raroque, M.D. “They even made sure to schedule all of Steve’s treatments around his daily routine. Their medical expertise was infused with the honesty and sense of hope we needed to live our best lives regardless of the outcome.”

As Steve succumbed to cancer, he assured Sherrie, “I absolutely loved my life. I had a good life.” To ensure that his goodness and gratitude live on, Sherrie reached out to the Health Foundation to make a gift. “I was told that you can lose your loved one twice. The first loss is their physical death. The second loss comes when people stop speaking their name,” says Sherrie. “Remembering Steve and recognizing the value of the Healing Garden by sponsoring the bench where he loved to sit, keeps his name and the hope and gratitude we felt alive.”

To learn more about giving gifts of remembrance, call 702-616-5750.

Sherrie Gahn and her sons, Geoffrey & Gregory.



SHERRIE’S SAINTS

Internist Jennifer Raroque, M.D. proved a reassuring presence for Sherrie Gahn. She understood Steve’s cancer professionally – and deeply empathized with Sherrie personally as her husband once battled the same form of leukemia. Dr. Raroque and oncologist Rupesh Parikh, M.D. recently received a St. Rose “Saint” pin for the extraordinary care they provided the Gahn family.