

# 35 celebration



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF EXTRAORDINARY CARE

What do you do when you are given a gift?

You write a thank you note.

For thirty five years, the extraordinary medical care and compassionate support of Hospice of East Texas have been a GIFT to the people and communities of East Texas.

The tenderly written notes in this newsletter eloquently describe what that care and compassion can mean at a time when they are needed most.

Extraordinary Care, Compassion & Commitment

To the Dear Sweet people of Hospice,  
Thank you for all that you did to help my Mom thru this difficult time. For the ones that came and prepared her step by step for this journey, to the ones that made sure she had the medication she needed, to the ones that brought out special equipment, especially the bed so that she could be out in the front room which made it easier for the people visiting her and for the ones taking care of her. She was able to be at home surrounded by all her loved ones during her last days. I thank God for all the wonderful people at Hospice. We will be forever Grateful.

Thank you,  
Sharon Simmons  
on behalf of the  
Odessa McKay Family

**Your support and friendship** make this gift of hospice care possible and will help Hospice of East Texas honor our commitment to provide that care for years to come.



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF EXTRAORDINARY CARE

To the Staff at The Hospice of East Texas -  
 Daddy and I will never find the words to truly say thank you to each of you for the way you loved us well as we said goodbye to my Mom. You made a heart crushing experience actually have beauty all woven throughout, because of your care and gentleness for her and for us. I think we come as close to Heaven as possible on this earth, by being with each of you. You love well!  
 Sharon Bates Grooms

It has been nearly three years since my sweet sister, Connie Bunch, passed away at The Hospice of East Texas. I regret it has taken this long for me to express my gratitude to your wonderful facility. As a physical therapist, I have worked in healthcare for 23 years. Without exception, your staff is the kindest, most compassionate, most competent, and caring group of professionals I have ever witnessed. While I cannot recall names or faces, I do remember the many acts of kindness that made losing a beloved family member a little easier to bear. My sister's last days were made as comfortable as possible, and for that my family is forever grateful. From the housekeepers, to the nurses, to the physicians, and the volunteers, you truly perform God's work.  
 Sincerely,  
 Cathy Allen



The  
**HOSPICE**  
 of East Texas Foundation

December 11, 2012.

To the entire staff of Hospice of East Texas,

Last November we began, rather unexpectedly, fighting a battle with my dad in the hospital. When we were told that there was no way to win this and we needed to look at our options, we were referred to Hospice of East Texas. Unknown, scary and deeply sad territory for us, Hospice of East Texas stepped in. They took care of all the details before we even left the hospital. When faced with telling a loved one good bye it is difficult, if not impossible, to dwell on important details. I look back on this time and have seen how I and my five siblings felt held by God, Who was generous with peace and miracles that we experienced. Hospice of East Texas feels like one of those details that He took care of for us. Before even leaving the hospital, I felt like we had a friend holding our hands, whispering in our ears, paving the road in comfort for this unimaginable journey. There was not one sticky, difficult detail not thought about or left un done. Before this experience, when I would hear the word "hospice"... It was sort of like "cancer". It sounded foreign and ugly and represented things I didn't really want to think about. After our experience with Hospice of East Texas, my eyes were opened. Hospice of East Texas not only provides a service, but provides a ministry. And it is deeply embedded in my heart now thanks to our experience. Hebrews 13:2 says: Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it. I have no doubt that HOET is close to angels and that they have done well to entertain them.

Thank you to all who touched our lives.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Blau



As Hospice of East Texas celebrates its thirty-fifth birthday this year, we take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** to **YOU**, our friends and donors, for your support of our mission.

We are able to offer the **GIFT** of extraordinary and compassionate care to thousands of families each year because of gifts from people like you. Quite simply, we could not fulfill our mission without you.

We hope you can celebrate with us on October 5, 2017.

Mark Your  
Calendars!



Please join  
The Hospice of East Texas  
as We Celebrate Our  
Thirty-fifth Birthday!

and Honor

the Committed Volunteers Who Have Served  
as Board Chairs from 1983 to 2017

Thursday, October 5, 2017

11:30 a.m.

Green Acres Baptist Church  
CrossWalk Center

See reverse for sponsorship and ticket information.



# 35 CELEBRATING

## Hospice of East Texas Thirty-fifth Birthday Campaign

A milestone birthday deserves a milestone marker! As a part of this year's celebrations, Hospice of East Texas is launching a fundraising campaign to ensure that honoring our long-standing commitments remains possible for years to come.

Since its inception, Hospice of East Texas has been committed to care for every patient and family who seeks our care, whether they have a way to pay for that care or not. Funds raised in the Thirty-fifth Birthday Campaign will be used to insure that we can honor that commitment and provide the "above and beyond" programs for which Hospice of East Texas is so well known.

### Thirty-fifth Birthday Celebration Luncheon Sponsorship Opportunities

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#### \$5000 - Presenting Sponsors

Two premium reserved tables for 8 at  
Celebration Luncheon

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#### \$3500 - Luncheon Sponsors

Reserved premium table for 8 at  
Celebration Luncheon

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#### \$1500 - Luncheon Table Hosts

Reserved table for 8 at Celebration Luncheon

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#### \$1000 - Gold

Reserved seating for 6 at Celebration Luncheon

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#### \$500 - Silver

Reserved seating for 4 at Celebration Luncheon

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#### \$250 - Bronze

Reserved seating for 2 at Celebration Luncheon

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#### \$45 - Individual tickets

to the Celebration Luncheon

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**Your gift may be made in honor or memory  
of someone held dear.**

Please include all information on enclosed  
envelope or contact us with any questions.  
Wendy Frizzell, Development Officer,  
903-266-3400 ext. 140  
or [wfrizzell@hospiceofeasttexas.org](mailto:wfrizzell@hospiceofeasttexas.org).