



## *Hospice Memorial Service Program - April 2025*

### *Welcome*

Lisa Nichols  
Hospice and Palliative Care Director

### *Readings*

Marcia Flinkstrom, Hospice Social Worker  
Remembering

Caroline Carter, Hospice RN  
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### *Litany of Remembrance*

Ruth Kletnick, Hospice Chaplain  
Hospice Team Members: Leah, Keith, Marcia, Melissa, Jami, Melissa

### *Moment of Quiet Reflection*

Rev. Maureen E. Steer  
Holistic Disciplines Manager

### *Readings*

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Katie LeBlanc, Hospice Chaplain  
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### *Closing Remarks & Benediction*

Rev. Maureen E. Steer  
Holistic Disciplines Manager



Lisa Nichols

## *Welcome*

Hello, my name is Lisa Nichols. I have the honor of serving as the Director of Hospice and Palliative Care here at Cornerstone VNA.

On behalf of our entire team, I want to thank you for being here with us and welcome you to our Spring Memorial Service and Butterfly Garden. As spring brings with it a season of renewal and gentle beauty, we gather in that same spirit to remember, to reflect, and to honor the lives of those we have lost.

This memorial service is a time to hold space for both sorrow and gratitude, grief and love. Whether your loss was a few weeks ago or several months, your presence here means everything. It's a reminder that love endures and that we never walk the path of healing alone. Thank you for allowing us to walk beside you. We're so glad you're here.

Marcia Flinkstrom

## *Remembering*

The beauty of a memory  
Is that it's always there,  
Like a penny in your pocket  
You can take it anywhere.

And when your heart is heavy  
And your eyes are filled with tears,  
You can focus on a memory,  
And travel through the years.

Your heart can visit happy times,  
When laughter filled the air,  
And the presence of your loved one,  
Will lessen your despair.

So, as you travel on in life,  
Take comfort as you go.  
In a lifetime of "sweet memories,"  
Of one who loved you so!

— Author Unknown

Caroline Carter, RN, Hospice Nurse

### *The Mountain*

If the mountain seems too big today  
then climb a hill instead;  
If morning brings you sadness  
it's okay to stay in bed.  
If the day ahead feels heavy  
and your plans feel like a curse,  
There's no shame in rearranging,  
don't make yourself feel worse.  
If a shower stings like needles  
and a bath feels like you'll drown;  
If you haven't washed your hair for days,  
don't throw away your crown!  
A day is not a lifetime.  
A rest is not defeat.  
Don't think of it as failure,  
Just a quiet, kind retreat.  
It's okay to take a moment  
From an anxious, fractured mind.  
The world will not stop turning  
While you get realigned!  
The mountain will still be there  
When you want to try again  
You can climb it in your own time,  
Just love yourself till then!



Ruth Kletnick and Hospice Team

## *Litany of Remembrance*

In the rising of the sun and its going down.

*We remember them.*

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter.

*We remember them.*

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring.

*We remember them.*

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer.

*We remember them.*

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn.

*We remember them.*

In the beginning of the year and when it ends.

*We remember them.*

When we are weary and in need of strength.

*We remember them.*

When we are lost and sick at heart.

*We remember them.*

When we have joys, we yearn to share.

*We remember them.*

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us. We ask that they go on living in us who have loved them so deeply in our hearts and minds, in our courage and conscience.

*As we remember them.*



Maureen Steer, Holistic Disciplines Manager

### *Quiet Reflection*

I'm Maureen Steer. I'm the Holistic Disciplines Manager, and part of my role is the Bereavement Coordinator. And I invite you into this virtual service to just take a minute to kind of hit pause on the scurrying around of life and to just allow yourself a few minutes to really engage in what you're thinking, what you're feeling about your loved one, and give yourself time to smile through memories.

Or maybe let a few of your tears flow and give yourself that time. I'd like to just offer up a moment of silence, just so that you can center yourself and be fully present to us.

[Quiet Reflection Time]



Janet Gnall, Hospice Volunteer

### *Butterfly Spirit*

I've come to seek you out today,  
I feel your pain, you've lost your way.  
I've never left I live through you.  
Our hearts entwined, our bond is true.  
No time nor space can take away,  
The love we share will always stay.  
Thank you for still loving me,  
I am everywhere and finally free.  
It's still your turn so take every chance,  
To live with wonder, to sing and dance.  
I won't be far my soul lives on,  
With every sunset and every dawn.  
I'll be your sign, just look for me,  
I am still with you eternally.

— Elle Bee



Katie LeBlanc, Hospice Chaplain

## *Litany of My Journey*

I beg assistance, God of my journey  
for your loved one.

To accept that all of life is only on loan,  
and to believe beyond this moment.

To accept your courage  
when ours might fail.

And to hold all of life  
and open hands.

To treasure all as gift and blessing  
and to look at the painful part of life  
and to grow through it.

And to allow your love, Lord,  
to embrace us all on days  
that might feel empty or lonely,  
and to receive the truth of your presence.

And in all of this we are grateful.

Amen.





Maureen Steer, Holistic Disciplines Manager

### *Closing Remarks*

We thank you for taking the time out for your busy lives to join us and remember your loved one. And just taking that minute for yourself. We'd like to invite you to come by the office to pick up your butterfly in the butterfly walk. And in that garden, you'll see directions on how to find your loved one's butterfly with their names on it.

We invite you to come by that butterfly garden and pick them up at your leisure if you're able to. And I just like to offer up a quick blessing as you go about your day.

Maureen Steer, Holistic Disciplines Manager

### *Benediction*

I'll leave you with this blessing:

*May the road rise to meet you.  
May the wind always be at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face.  
May the rains fall softly on your fields.  
And until we meet again may you be well.*

Thank you very much.