

A Tireless Champion of End-of-Life Care

HopeHealth's Board of Directors appointed Arthur S. Robbins, a Providence business leader and HopeHealth board member for over four decades, to the position of chair emeritus. Known for his leadership, citizenship and philanthropy in Providence and his hometown of Woonsocket, Robbins is a tireless HopeHealth volunteer, guiding the mission and vision of an organization about which he is passionate.

"While I am honored to receive this recognition from HopeHealth," said Robbins, "the satisfaction I have from being part of an organization that has helped thousands of people over the years is enough. I feel very lucky to have spent the past 40 years with this wonderful staff and board – and, of course, our patients and their families."

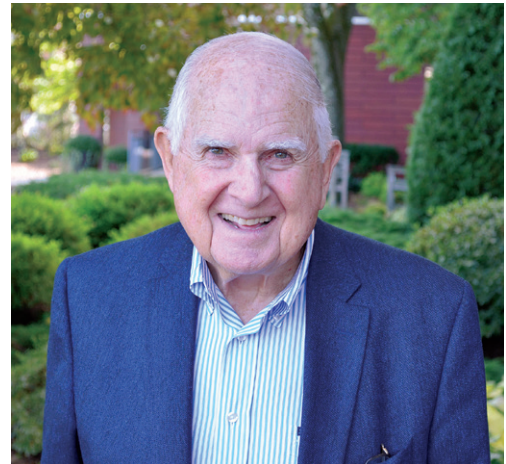
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– Arthur S. Robbins

Robbins became involved with the organization in the mid-1970's when HopeHealth was one of just two hospice providers in the United States. Today, it's a regional leader in hospice, palliative and home health care. As the organization helped blaze the trail for hospice in the U.S., Robbins was at the governance table and was a passionate advocate for creating a center for inpatient hospice care, at a time when very few health systems understood or appreciated the need for such a facility.

Robbins subsequently led the fundraising campaigns that built HopeHealth's first inpatient unit, the Hulitar Hospice Center, which opened in 1993, followed by the current Hulitar Hospice Center, which opened in 2010.

"Arthur Robbins has been an absolute champion for end-of-life care in this community," says HopeHealth President & CEO Diana Franchitto. "Through our inpatient hospice center alone, he has helped bring compassion and dignity to thousands of patients in their final days, and to their loved ones. That legacy will only grow."



HopeHealth Board Chair Emeritus Arthur S. Robbins at the Hulitar Hospice Center. Robbins was instrumental in raising funds to construct the Center.



Arthur S. Robbins and Judy Robbins at the 2018 Evening of Hope & Gratitude. Robbins was honored with HopeHealth's Human Dignity Award for his devotion to patients at end of life, and their families.

Major Support for Attleboro-Area Families Caring for Loved Ones with Dementia

A major grant from the Fred M. Roddy Foundation will help to support families caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias in 13 communities in the greater Attleboro, MA, area. HopeHealth Community VNA's Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Program offers guidance and support to caregivers, helps connect them to community resources and covers the cost of respite care so that caregivers can feel confident in taking some time for themselves.

Before his passing in 1969, engineer and entrepreneur Fred M. Roddy established a foundation to support organizations invested in "health and medical issues of the mind and body." With no family to leave his estate to, he made the community of Attleboro, where he lived and worked, the beneficiary of his successful career. Since 2000, HopeHealth Community VNA has received numerous grants from the Fred M. Roddy Foundation, providing essential resources for programs. The Foundation has also been a leader in the development of HopeHealth Community VNA's Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Program.

"When we revitalized the Foundation in 2019," shares Elizabeth McIntyre, Foundation President, "we reached out to organizations that had been impacted by our grants. Our board was incredibly impressed by HopeHealth Community VNA's work and their dedication to this community."

The Foundation's most recent grant of \$100,000 has contributed to an endowment to provide ongoing support for the Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Program. "My mother passed away from Alzheimer's disease," McIntyre says, "I and the entire foundation were heartened by HopeHealth Community VNA's commitment to this program and are proud to recognize the importance of their ongoing work through our continued support."



To learn more about the Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Program, visit our website at <https://hopehealthco.org/AlzheimersMA>

Information is Power: HopeHealth's Caregiver Education Series

HopeHealth's new Caregiver Confidence Series, three educational classes offered in English and Spanish, is designed to provide education, support and resources to people caring for loved ones with an illness. "Through these sessions, our participants are learning important information about HopeHealth's services, how to think about advanced directives, and caregiver strategies," shares Director of Community Services, Deanna Upchurch. "Information that will help them make the best decisions for their loved ones – and that information is power!"

HopeHealth's virtual education series is unique because classes are taught by a live person and are interactive. Attendees are encouraged to ask questions and share their experiences. Says Upchurch, "We are able to bring each participant immediately into the HopeHealth community; to get to know them and what supports they may need."

**The next series of
Caregiver Confidence courses begins this fall.**

To learn more, visit our website at
<https://www.hopehealthco.org/caregiver-education/>



Nurse Educator Lisa Wasson, RN, CHPN, CMDCP, leads a number of free virtual courses that offer resources and support for caregivers of loved ones with a serious illness.

A Life in Service to Others

For more than 12 years, you could find hospice volunteer Nancy Rieser at a patient's bedside at the HopeHealth Hultar Hospice Center, co-facilitating grief support groups in South County, or kayaking with teenagers at Camp BraveHeart. "Nancy lived her life in service to others – it was just in her make-up," remembers her life partner, Paola Mangiacapra. "Her passion for HopeHealth started as curiosity about end-of-life experiences and grew into a deep appreciation for what this organization does for our community, especially for women and children."



Hospice Volunteer Nancy Rieser made a bequest that will benefit HopeHealth patients and families for years to come.

Rieser, who had cared for so many as a hospice volunteer, experienced declining health in her later years and died in the Hultar Hospice Center in February 2021. HopeHealth was among 10 beloved organizations to which Rieser left a significant gift in her will.

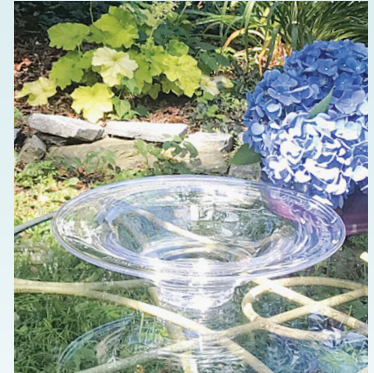
"Her passion for HopeHealth started as curiosity about end-of-life experiences and grew into a deep appreciation for what this organization does."

—Paola Mangiacapra, Rieser's life partner

"HopeHealth gave us the gift of being able to be together in Nancy's final days," shares Mangiacapra. "I know it meant so much that her final gesture to HopeHealth would sustain its patients and families into the future."

AN EVENING OF *Save the Date* for *hope & Gratitude*

Mark your calendars for June 8, 2023 when our hospice and palliative care fundraiser, *An Evening of Hope & Gratitude*, returns, live and in person. Featuring powerful stories of hope and dignity, wonderful food and the 2023 Human Dignity Award presentation, the event will support hospice and palliative care patients and their families in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts.



The 2021 Human Dignity Award

Details and opportunities to support this important evening, both in-person and virtually, will arrive in your mailbox soon!

A Perk to Getting Older

When you reach age 70½, using the assets in your IRA account can offer a tax-smart way to make a gift to HopeHealth or another charity. Giving from your IRA is called a charitable IRA rollover or Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). You can give from your IRA at age 70½, and, after age 72, charitable gifts made from your IRA can satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Because QCDs are not counted as taxable income, you may save Federal and state income tax, even if you do not itemize deductions. Please contact your financial advisor for help in making a gift through your IRA.

Give Your Old Vehicle a New Purpose - Donate it to HopeHealth!

Did you know that your unwanted or extra car, truck, motorcycle, RV, or boat can support patients? Vehicle donations are a unique and impactful giving option that support all of HopeHealth's programs. Please follow the link to learn more: <https://www.hopehealthco.org/ways-to-give/donate-now/donate-your-car/#donate-now>



Flynn Palliative Care Nursing Fellowship

HopeHealth and the University of Rhode Island (URI) have partnered to support aspiring nurses in one of health care's fastest-growing specialties: palliative care. The two organizations were selected to pilot the Susan D. Flynn Palliative Care Nursing Fellowship, which launched its inaugural summer session on June 6, 2022. The fellowship is facilitated, awarded, and funded by the Susan D. Flynn Oncology Nursing Development Program.

Thanks to continued medical advances, more people of all ages are living with serious illnesses like cancer, respiratory conditions and heart ailments. Palliative care focuses on optimizing quality of life for these patients and their families – including advanced symptom management along with emotional and spiritual support. The specialty has grown rapidly in the U.S., from a presence in only 7% of hospitals in 2001 to more than 72% of hospitals today. URI and HopeHealth designed the Flynn Palliative Care Nursing Fellowship curriculum to give nursing students the hands-on training they need to be successful in this growing field.

During the summer of 2022, URI nursing students Becca Alder and Katie Fitzmaurice were immersed in home health, palliative care and hospice nursing in inpatient, home and long-term care settings. The two also conducted and presented research based on their learnings: Alder on the



URI nursing students Katie Fitzmaurice and Becca Alder, the 2022 Flynn Palliative Nursing Fellows, with Diana Franchitto, HopeHealth President & CEO; Fred Flynn, founder of the Susan D. Flynn Oncology Nursing Development Program, and Susan Desanto-Madeya, PhD, APRN-CNS, FAAN, Associate Professor and Miriam Weyker Chair, URI College of Nursing.

influence of comfort feeding on patient quality of life and Fitzmaurice on the impact of respite care for pediatric palliative patients.

The Susan D. Flynn Oncology Nursing Development Program was founded by Fred Flynn, inspired by the end-of-life care that his late wife, Susan, received after a diagnosis of ovarian cancer. The program's namesake oncology fellowship, created in 2014, has supported 230 oncology nursing fellows. The new palliative nursing fellowship is the program's latest expansion, and its first partnership with URI and HopeHealth.

We Are Here For You

Wherever you are in your healthcare journey, HopeHealth is here to support you.

HopeHealth's registered nurses are available 24/7 to answer any questions you may have. If you're overwhelmed or have questions about care, we're available around the clock to address concerns and provide support.

For questions about hospice, palliative, home care or dementia & Alzheimer's services, or to make a referral, call us at (844) 671-4673 or email Information@HopeHealthCo.org.

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Please contact us to share your HopeHealth story, to learn more about how your donation impacted our work, or to make a gift in support of our compassionate care.

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