

heart to heart

THE NEWSLETTER OF TANNER HOSPICE CARE

A Legacy of Service Lives On



Florence Maureen Jenks

Her life's journey took her around the world, yet when she came to Carrollton, she found home. Florence Maureen Jenks, known to friends and colleagues simply as "Jenks," was a beloved member of Carrollton and the Tanner Health System community. Many knew her as a dedicated registered nurse anesthetist (RNA) at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton, but her life of service began before her arrival in Georgia in 1969.

"She was a kind and hard working woman," describes her good friend and former neighbor, Amy Wood. "She had a hard childhood but managed to beat the odds and have a good life." Jenks was born in 1934 in New Britain, Conn., and graduated high school in 1952. She may have been named "class clown" of her graduating class at Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Salisbury, Conn., but she was serious about her education.

After four years of studies, she earned a degree in nursing from Henry W. Bishop III Memorial School of Nursing in Pittsfield, Mass. She enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1957 during a time when less than 30,000 nurses were in the U.S. and years before the first measles, mumps, rubella and other vaccines were available.

Jenks was stationed all over the world and rose to the rank of major, serving as a nurse anesthetist for 12 years. In Vietnam, she worked with wounded soldiers as they were transferred home to their bases for recovery. During her Air Force career, she found a deep appreciation for travel.

Wood recalls stories Jenks shared about her adventures around the world. "She really enjoyed Japan when she was there. She enjoyed the culture. She even rode a camel in Morocco."

(continued on following page)

SAVE THE DATE

For more information, please call Tanner Hospice Care at 770.214.2355. Hospice volunteer meetings are for current volunteers only.

Hospice Volunteer Meeting

11:30 a.m.
Tanner Medical Center/
Carrollton, Classroom 1

Wednesday, Sept. 21 —
TBD

Hospice Volunteer Meeting

11:30 a.m.
Tanner Medical Center/
Carrollton, Classroom 1

Wednesday, Oct. 19 —
TBD

Hospice Volunteer Meeting

11:30 a.m.
Tanner Medical Center/
Carrollton, Classroom 1

Wednesday, Nov. 16 —
Food sale preparation

20th Annual Tanner Hospice Care Holiday Food Sale

9 a.m. until the last items
are sold
First Baptist Church, 102
Dixie Street, Carrollton

Saturday, Nov. 19

Hospice Volunteer Meeting

11:30 a.m.
Tanner Medical Center/
Carrollton, Classroom 1

Wednesday, Dec. 21 —
Volunteer Christmas
Luncheon

A Legacy of Service Lives On (continued from front page)

When offered a military post in Japan, she seriously considered the opportunity until she learned that she would have to leave her dog behind in the U.S. She passed on that opportunity.

Following an honorable discharge from the Air Force in December 1969, she moved to Carrollton and found the area she would call home. She was hired as an RN/nurse anesthetist at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton, and served the community for more than 14 years.

Joyce Middlebrooks worked with Jenks from 1976 until her retirement, and remembered her as a strong member of the nursing team who had no family, but had a strong love of animals.

"She loved her pets," explained Middlebrooks. "She always had a dog and the dog she had when I worked with her was named Michael. When Michael died we all had to take care of Maureen, because it was like her child."

It was Jenks' terrier, "CC," that helped establish her friendship with new neighbor Amy Wood.


"I had been there about a year and I would see her outside walking her dog in the morning. Well, I was always rushed and didn't have time to speak but I always

put my hand up and waved at her," Wood explains. "One day I got off a little bit early and she was outside, and the rest is history." Neither had family living nearby and they soon formed a lasting friendship.

Wood recalls her friend's sense of independence.

"She had a stroke in June of 2008 and up until then she was perfectly independent," explains Wood. "As a matter of fact, the day before her stroke she went and got her driver's license renewed." Following her stroke, she could no longer live alone, and later turned to hospice care.

Last year, Maureen Jenks passed away at the age of 76. Her lifetime of service in the military and to our community was remembered, yet she had one last gift to give her beloved Carrollton community. In addition to gifts to the Carroll County Animal Shelter and other Carroll County organizations, a bequest from her estate was made to Tanner Hospice Care.

The lives of her friends, colleagues, patients and pets were better for having known Jenks. Though Carrollton's world-travelling nurse will be missed, her legacy of service to our community lives on. 



From the Heart

"Thursday would have been my parents' 55th wedding anniversary. My mother went to be with our Lord Jesus on Feb. 28 of this year. My father received a card from the folks at Tanner Hospice Care, wishing him a happy anniversary. It came at just the right time, as my father was feeling kind of blue. It meant so much to know that he as well as my mother was remembered on this special day."

"We have told everyone about Tanner Hospice Care. A wonderful, helpful and professional service and a blessing to have had it."

"Belinda was very caring and went above and beyond her job."

"Thank you to a wonderful staff!"

"Tanner Hospice Care was an answer to prayer for our family"



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HOSPICE

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APRIL TO JUNE • 2011

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Did you know?

- Tanner Hospice Care is the only not-for-profit hospice serving our community.
- Tanner Hospice Care is the only locally-based hospice in the west Georgia area.
- Tanner Hospice Care relies on fundraisers and individual gifts/donations to help serve our patients.



Knights of Columbus Donates \$900

On May 6, The Knights of Columbus – Monsignor Michael J. Regan Council 8731, sponsored its annual Golf Tournament at Oak Mountain Championship Golf Course to raise funds for local organizations.

Affiliated with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church at 210 Old Center Point Road in Carrollton, the Knights of Columbus uses the golf tournament as its primary fundraiser for the year. Local businesses support the event by sponsoring a hole or

a team, or donating prizes. Proceeds are added to funds raised through the monthly pancake breakfast and parish dinners, then distributed to selected organizations.

Chuck Klug, financial secretary for Council 8731, explained that recipients share the same principles held by the Knights of Columbus: "Charity, community, fraternity and patriotism."

Tanner Hospice Care was selected as the recipient of a \$900 donation, which was presented to Debbie Brock, director of Tanner Hospice Care, by Richard Parcels Jr., grand knight of the Knights of Columbus.

Donations like this one from the Knights of Columbus allow Tanner Hospice Care to provide services to anyone who needs them, regardless of their ability to pay. We greatly appreciate all who supported Tanner Hospice Care through The Knights of Columbus annual Golf Tournament. 🍀



The Knights of Columbus Monsignor Michael J. Regan Council 8731

Eating Well, Doing Good — 20th Annual Tanner Hospice Care Holiday Food Sale

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 19 for the 20th Annual Tanner Hospice Care Holiday Food Sale at the First Baptist Church in Carrollton, located at 102 Dixie Street. The sale will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude when the last food items are sold.

This event continues to be the most successful fundraiser for Tanner Hospice Care, as last year's food sale brought in more than \$13,000. For 20 years, this holiday tradition has combined eating well with

doing good, by bringing together the area's best cooks and people eager to purchase their mouth-watering dishes – all to benefit Tanner Hospice Care, the region's only community-based, nonprofit hospice service.

Community residents select from dishes lovingly prepared by local residents and stock their freezers with great food that they can share with friends and loved ones throughout the holidays.

More than 500 homemade dishes will be available for hassle-free holiday meals and entertaining, including: smoked turkeys, barbecue, casseroles, hors d'oeuvres, soups, desserts, fresh breads and much more. All food is packaged for easy storage, as well as labeled and refrigerated as necessary to ensure freshness.

How can you help? We are currently signing up "chefs" for the event. As a chef, your job is easy: all you do is make any food item(s) you like – a pie, cake, casserole, side item, etc. – the options are endless. Just drop off your dish at the church on Friday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. We will have our volunteers there to help bring it in.

You also can help by coming to the actual sale on Saturday morning and purchasing some of the delectable treats, perfect for stocking the freezer for holiday happenings!

To learn more, offer to prepare a dish or volunteer, please call Tanner Hospice Care at 770.214.2355. 🍀



2004 and 2007 saw some of the biggest crowds of holiday shoppers enjoying the Tanner Hospice Care Holiday Food Sale during the past 20 years.



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TANNER HOSPICE CARE

The Need Continues

The staff and volunteers at Tanner Hospice Care are always there for patients and their families when the need is the greatest. The last newsletter reported that Tanner Hospice Care now needs the support of the community. The financial assistance of the community and gifts from compassionate donors are a critical component of the continued success of this program. Special thanks to all those who heard the call for help and responded. However, the need continues.

Tanner Hospice Care is the region's only community-based, nonprofit hospice care provider, serving the emotional and spiritual needs of patients in addition to their physical needs. Tanner Hospice Care believes that the quality of life is as important as the length of life, and that patients should have the option of being at home, alert and free of pain, among the people and things they love.

Tanner Hospice Care has never billed a patient for service, relying on private insurance, Medicare and donations to continue providing care. No patient has ever been turned down based on their inability to pay. Thank you for being here in a time of need. 🍷



Contributions for Tanner Hospice Care may be mailed to P.O. Box 1136, Carrollton, GA 30112, or call 770.214.2355.