

FALL 2026

Newsletter

BETHELL HOSPICE • CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

A Match Made at Hospice

Sometimes, the most unexpected gifts grow out of life's hardest moments.

For Bruce and Louise, that gift was each other.

Both began volunteering with Bethell Hospice in resident support, Louise in 2019 after completing volunteer training, and Bruce several years earlier. They came to hospice for the same reason many volunteers do: a desire to help others during some of life's most challenging transitions. Neither imagined that the place dedicated to helping people at the end of life would also mark the beginning of a new chapter in their own.

When the pandemic changed the way hospice operated, many volunteers had to step away. Bruce and Louise were among a small group who continued to serve. While Louise worked in the kitchen and Bruce volunteered at reception, the quieter atmosphere allowed them to talk, share stories, and build a friendship.



A mutual friend and fellow volunteer, Margalith, helped bring them together. The trio spent many Sunday afternoons sharing tea, conversation, and laughter. During a time when so many people felt isolated, those gatherings became a source of connection and comfort.

Both Bruce and Louise were navigating profound loss. Bruce's wife, Lynn, died suddenly in a cycling accident at the beginning of the pandemic. Louise later experienced the loss of her sister, Leslie. Through their volunteer work, friendships, and the compassionate community surrounding hospice, they found people who understood the importance of simply listening.

"People here don't try to fix grief," Louise says. "They let you remember."

That sense of understanding became the foundation of a deep friendship. Over time, that friendship grew into something more. The journey was not a simple one. Bruce took time to reflect on important life decisions and spent months discerning the path ahead. Through it all, the two remained connected by shared values, mutual respect, and a commitment to living fully despite life's losses.



Looking back, both credit the hospice community for helping them through some of their darkest days. Bruce and Louise also take comfort in knowing their loved ones will always be remembered at Bethell Hospice through a room dedication and two trees along the Road of Remembrance laneway.

"We've both been greatly enriched by our friendships here," Bruce says. "The compassion and wisdom of this community continue to sustain us."

In June 2026, Bruce and Louise were married at the Alton Mill, surrounded by family, friends and the supportive community that had grown around them at the hospice. It was a celebration not only of their love, but of the kindness and support that helped bring them together.

Their story is a reminder that hospice is about much more than end-of-life care. It is a place where community carries people through grief, and where hope can be found in the most unexpected places.

For Bruce and Louise, what began as volunteer service became a friendship, a partnership, and ultimately a love story. A true match made at hospice.

Here when you need us

Upcoming Opportunities to Support Bethell Hospice

Dixie Orchards

August 29 – October 30, 2026

Enjoy a fun-filled day at Dixie Orchards, located at 14309 Dixie Rd., Caledon! Wander through the orchard and pick your own apples, and visit the charming porch market for freshly baked treats and unique local products. Browse a variety of specialty items, including jams, honey, maple syrup, ready-picked apples, and hazelnuts.

There's something for everyone in the family to enjoy, from friendly farm animals and a corn maze to straw jumping and scenic wagon rides.

From August 29 to October 30, Dixie Orchards will support Bethell Hospice Foundation by donating \$1 from every pie sold and \$1 from every sunflower bundle purchased.



Dixie Orchards
It's Apple Time! 



Bon Appetit
— FOR BETHELL HOSPICE FOUNDATION —

Bon Appetit for Bethell Hospice Fall 2026

This fall, treat yourself to delicious local food and drinks while supporting Bethell Hospice Foundation. Through the Bon Appétit for Bethell Hospice campaign, you can enjoy "Bethell Specials" at participating restaurants, with a portion of every purchase donated to support Bethell Hospice Foundation.

Visit foundation.bethellhospice.org to view the full list of participating locations and special offers.

Downey's Farm – Pumpkinfest Opening Weekend!

Saturday, September 19 & Sunday, September 20, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (daily)

Get ready for the annual Pumpkinfest at Downey's Farm in Caledon! Celebrate the start of the season during opening weekend, when a portion of proceeds from every pumpkin doughnut sold will support Bethell Hospice Foundation. If you haven't tried this fan-favourite treat yet, we're sure one bite will have you coming back for more.

For more details on Pumpkinfest, visit www.downeysfarm.com



Bike for Bethell Hospice Sunday, September 20, 2026

Join team captain Bob Mansbridge and the Bethell Hospice team for a ride along the scenic Caledon Trailway. Starting in Inglewood, participants will cycle 20 to 40 km on Sunday, September 20, raising funds in support of Bethell Hospice Foundation.

To donate, please visit foundation.bethellhospice.org, click on Donate and under Fund Allocation (Area to Support) use the drop-down and select Bike for Bethell Hospice 2026.

To take part in the ride, and for more information, please email Bob at rwmunit4@gmail.com for more information.



Golf 4 Bethell Hospice



Many thanks to the sponsors of this **SOLD OUT** event:

Presenting Sponsor: DCM

Platinum Sponsors: Jaguar\Land Rover Brampton, Maple Toyota, Meadowvale Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Services

Gold Sponsors: Ledson Family, Liuna!183, The Morton & MacDonald families

PRESENTING
SPONSOR

DCM

Friends of Bethell Hospice Golf Days at Glen Eagle Golf Club

Tuesday, September 22 & Wednesday, September 23, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (daily)

Friends of Bethell Hospice Golf Days will return to Glen Eagle Golf Club in Bolton this fall on September 22 and 23. Golfers who book a tee time on either of these days will help support Bethell Hospice Foundation, as a portion of each green fee will be donated to the Foundation.

Tee times will be available closer to the event. For updates and booking information, visit foundation.bethellhospice.org or www.gleneaglegolf.com.



Udder Tournament

Friday, November 6 to Sunday, November 8, 2026

The Udder Tournament is taking place November 6 – 8 at the Caledon East Arena, with all net proceeds benefitting Bethell Hospice Foundation.

Come out and support 30 competitive women's hockey teams. Spectators can also enjoy a delicious home-cooked meal, browse the silent auction, and enter raffles for a chance to win fantastic prizes.

Interested in sponsoring the tournament or volunteering at the event? Contact UdderTournamentSponsorship@gmail.com or call Lyn at 416-209-8411 for more information.

Monetary donations of \$25 or more are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.



Diamond in the Hills

Sunday, November 15, 2026

The Diamond in the Hills Fashion Show & Luncheon is back for another spectacular year! Celebrating its 10th anniversary, this popular event will take place on Sunday, November 15, at the beautiful Arlington Estate in Vaughan.

Since its inception in 2017, Diamond in the Hills has raised more than \$1.6 million. Guests can look forward to an unforgettable afternoon of fashion and entertainment!

To learn more about this exciting event, visit www.DiamondInTheHills.ca



Bethell Hospice Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 21, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Drop by Knox United Church, 2976 Charleston Sideroad, Caledon Village, and browse a delightful mix of gently used treasures, vintage finds, home-baked treats, seasonal greenery, and handcrafted gifts, all lovingly gathered by our community.

Do you have items to donate? Drop by the Inglewood Community Centre on Saturday, November 7 from 10 AM to 3 PM for this early donation drop-off.

If you are interested in contributing seasonal treats or baking, contact Lisa at Lisapecarski@gmail.com. Have non-baking items to donate? We'd love your help – reach out to Bonnie at bklaassen@bethellhospice.org.

A Bethell Hospice Resident's Story: A Life Well Lived

When you have nine sons, four daughters, 48 grandchildren, 85 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren, you deserve to be celebrated on your 103rd birthday.

It is also proof that being forever young has nothing to do with age. Meet Anna Adema, a resident of Bethell Hospice since June 5, 2026.

Anna, born Antje Steursma on June 5, 1923, in the village of Lutjegast, Netherlands, grew up with a strong sense of responsibility and determination. A dependable daughter, she ran errands throughout the village for her parents and grandparents and began working at the young age of 13.

By her early twenties, Antje was working as a store clerk in the Wieringermeer Polder in North Holland, an area situated approximately four metres below sea level. Since there were two women named Antje working there, she quickly became known as Anna, a name that would stay with her for the rest of her life.

Anna met Sidney Adema at a church choir. During the Second World War, Sidney went into hiding to avoid conscription by the German army to work in one of their factories. In 1944, a baker in Wieringermeer needed assistance, and through a series of connections, Sidney began working as a baker, primarily for the occupying forces and the local community. This opportunity brought him closer to Anna.

Following the war, Anna and Sidney married and began their life together. Between April 1946 and March 1951, they welcomed five children.

Economic opportunities in post-war Holland were limited, and inspired by the prospect of a better future, they decided to immigrate to Canada.

With only \$20 in their pockets, the Adema family arrived in Brampton, Ontario, sponsored by local farmer Harry Shields.

Celebrating Anna's 103rd birthday at Bethell Hospice.





Through hard work and perseverance, Anna and Sidney saved money from factory jobs, cleaning work, and other employment opportunities and purchased a home in Glen Williams, where their family continued to grow. By then, they had eight children. In 1965, they fulfilled another dream and purchased a 25-acre hobby farm on the Ninth Line in Halton Hills.

While the family lived in the basement with beds lined up along the walls, Sidney worked tirelessly to build their house after a day's work at the factory.

Anna managed the household, cared for the children, and tended a large vegetable garden. It was a busy but joyful life centred on family, hard work, and love.

Faith was at the heart of everything the Adema family did. Anna and Sidney were founding members of the Christian Reformed Church in Georgetown and helped establish the local Christian school. Anna was also a founding member of the church's Ladies Society and an active fundraiser. Family meals were shared around the table with prayer, devotions, and singing. Their faith in God was the foundation that sustained and guided their growing family.

When Sidney's health began to fail, he was moved to long-term care at Holland Christian Homes in Brampton. Anna moved into an apartment at the complex where she continued to be surrounded by the love and support of her 13 children.

As her care needs increased, the family made the difficult decision to seek hospice care at Bethell Hospice. In the words of Anna's daughter, Mary Anna,

"Bethell Hospice is a loving environment, and everyone is kind and helpful. Mom's room is by the window so she can enjoy the beautiful gardens and watch the many birds. Being able to move her bed outside so she can experience nature is truly a blessing."

Several of Anna's children sang "Forever Young" by Bob Dylan at her 90th birthday, and it became a beloved song for her. Its message continued to reflect the spirit with which she lived her life.

*May God bless and keep you always
May your wishes all come true
May you always do for others
And let others do for you
May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung
May you stay forever young*

Living a life rich in love and giving back to God in everyday life, Anna will always be remembered as "Forever Young."

Anna passed peacefully at Bethell Hospice on August 16, 2026.



EXPRESSING OUR *Gratitude*

2026 has been a year of strong community partnerships and we are grateful to our supporters who held events benefitting Bethell Hospice Foundation.



George Sant & Sons Greenhouses Plant Sale

Despite the rainy weather, the George Sant & Sons Greenhouses Plant Sale was a tremendous success. We extend our sincere thanks to George Sant & Sons for generously donating the hanging baskets, planters, and vegetable plants; Lakeside Garden Gallery for providing the mulch and soil; and Rebekah Rabe and friends for their donation of perennials.

Thanks to their generosity, combined with matching funds from Scotia Wealth Management, the event raised an impressive **\$6,200** in support of **Bethell Hospice Foundation**. We are incredibly grateful to Scotia Wealth Management for their ongoing commitment to community giving.

Sound Bath Fundraiser

In June, Sue Muise hosted a Sound Bath Fundraiser at the Caledon Centre in support of Bethell Hospice Foundation. Attendees enjoyed an evening of sound bath meditation, gratitude and forgiveness practices, and mindfulness activities. We are pleased to share that the event raised an impressive **\$1,270**. Thank you to Sue for organizing this special event, and to everyone who attended and supported.



Ride for Comfort & Care

Two-time cancer survivor Chris Phillips took on an incredible cycling challenge, riding 240 kms. from Inglewood to Collingwood and back in support of Bethell Hospice Foundation. We are delighted to share that Chris raised an impressive **\$1,740**. A heartfelt thank you to Chris for his passion, determination and commitment to hospice care, and to everyone who generously supported his ride.



100 Realtors Who Care Dufferin

A heartfelt thank you to 100 Realtors Who Care Dufferin who chose Bethell Hospice Foundation as the recipient of a generous **\$3,500** donation. We are grateful to everyone who nominated and voted for us.



100 Realtors Who Care Dufferin is an inspiring group of local realtors who come together to support community charities through their own charitable contributions. We deeply appreciate their commitment to giving back and making a positive difference in the lives of others.

100 Women Who Care Caledon

A big thank you to 100 Women Who Care Caledon for their generous donation in support of our Faucet Replacement Project. We are incredibly grateful for their support to fund such a practical and important need.

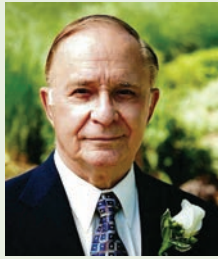


100 Women Who Care Caledon is built on the power of collective giving, bringing together women who are passionate about making a positive impact in their community.

A Bethell Hospice Resident's Story: A Life Honoured

(Antoni) Edward Gadzala

In his final days, Edward "Ed" Gadzala and his family experienced compassionate care and support at Bethell Hospice.



Surrounded by loved ones and treated with dignity and comfort, Ed's journey reflected the same warmth and love that defined his remarkable life.



Born in Sudbury, Ontario, on August 6, 1931, to Polish immigrant parents, Ed learned the value of perseverance at an early age. As his family moved from northern mining communities to a farm near Vineland and later to the Grainger Hotel in Larder Lake, young Ed helped by cleaning rooms, waiting tables, and washing dishes while his parents worked tirelessly to build a better life.

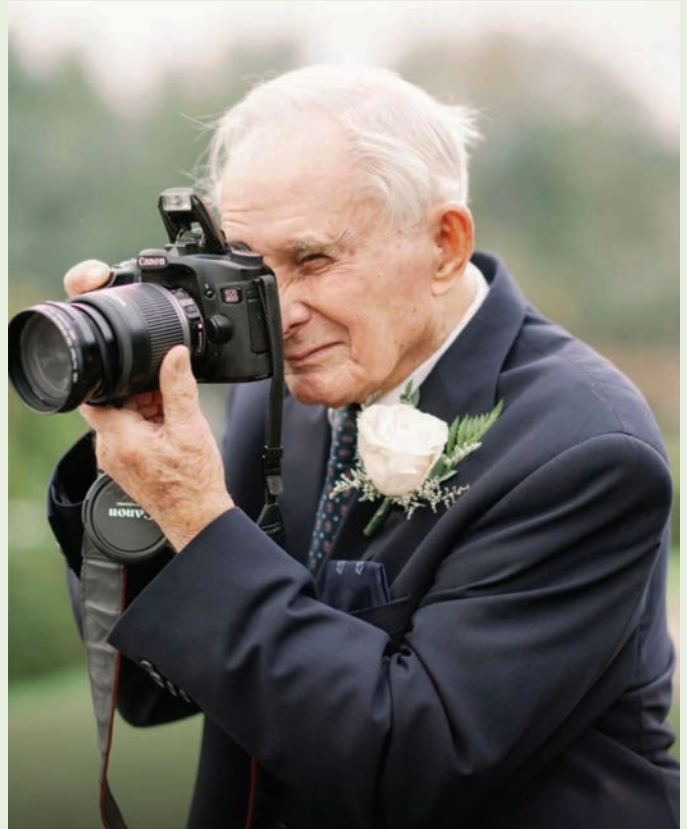


A gifted student, Ed attended St. Michael's College, played hockey, and later studied at the University of Toronto. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1958, married the love of his life, Jane, and continued his education despite life's

challenges. After receiving his master's degree, he moved his young family to Columbus, Ohio, where he completed a PhD in Physical Chemistry at Ohio State University. He then built a successful career as a research chemist with Avon in New York.

Ed returned to Ontario in 1973 to help care for his ailing father and manage the family's motel business. Together with Jane, he devoted the next 35 years to operating the Hillcrest Motel and North American Motel, continuing a family legacy that spanned nearly six decades.

Beyond his work, Ed travelled the world with Jane, exploring destinations from Australia and Kenya to China, Peru, and his parents' homeland of Poland. He remained active through hockey, cultivated beautiful gardens, crafted projects in his woodworking shop, and captured the world through the lens of his camera, amassing more than 100,000 photographs.



Above all, Ed's greatest achievement was his family. A devoted husband for 68 years, loving father, and grandfather, he leaves behind a legacy of determination and love that touched countless lives and will be remembered with gratitude and affection. Ed passed peacefully at the hospice on July 11, 2026.

A message from the Gadzala family to Bethell Hospice:

"During one of the most difficult times in our lives, you provided not only outstanding care but also comfort and kindness. Your unwavering support meant more to us than we can ever express. Thank you for every comforting smile, reassuring conversation, quiet moment of support, and act of kindness. Your work is truly a gift, and we are forever grateful for the difference you made in his life and in ours."



As the holiday season approaches, we honour the memory of loved ones and find connection with others.

Bethell Hospice's annual **Light & Love Tree Lighting Ceremony** offers a meaningful opportunity to reflect and remember those who have touched our lives.

Join us on Thursday, December 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. for this special outdoor ceremony.

Surrounded by the glow of remembrance lights and the presence of community, we will pause to honour cherished memories and support the important work of Bethell Hospice.



Proceeds from the Light & Love campaign help fund Bethell Hospice residence care and community programs. Donations of **\$25 or more** are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

Please dress for the weather, as the ceremony will be held outdoors.



To donate, visit bethellhospicelightandlove.ca or call the Fundraising Office at 905-838-3534.

Donate Now!

Bethell Hospice programs and services are only partially covered by our Ontario health care system. Each year, over \$2,000,000 must be raised through local fundraising efforts.

☐ Yes, I want to make a donation.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ \$10,000 (Bethell Benefactor) | ☐ \$500 (Companion) |
| ☐ \$5,000 (Leader) | ☐ \$250 (Friend) |
| ☐ \$2,500 (Partner) | ☐ \$100 (Donor) |
| ☐ \$1,500 (Supporter) | ☐ Other Amount _____ |
| ☐ \$1,000 (Mentor) | |

Donor Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____
(for tax receipt and communication)

DONATION OPTIONS

- ☐ I have enclosed a cheque (payable to Bethell Hospice Foundation)
- ☐ Please charge my ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express
- Frequency: ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually ☐ One Time Gift

Card # _____ CVV # _____

Expiry Date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

- ☐ I would like my gift to remain anonymous.
- ☐ I have included Bethell Hospice Foundation in my Will.

To donate today, please complete form and mail to:

Bethell Hospice Foundation
P.O. Box 75, Inglewood, Ontario L7C 3L6
or go to foundation.bethellhospice.org to give securely online

Charitable Registration #82636 7948 RR0001 Tax receipts are issued for all gifts of \$25 or more.

Donations should be payable to:

Bethell Hospice Foundation
P.O. Box 75, Inglewood, Ontario L7C 3L6

For more information, please call:

Tel: 905.838.3534

Email: foundation@bethellhospice.org



Bethell Hospice
FOUNDATION

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Here when you need us