

**ALPENGLOW  
HOSPICE  
FOUNDATION**

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# Alpenglow Quarterly

NOV 2010

## A Message from Our Administrator

As winter quickly approaches our activities and schedules change to accommodate school, weather, travel, and holidays. During this time, it is a comfort to know that while our schedules have taken on a life of their own, Alpenglow is always there as the corner stone that provides stability and strength. Alpenglow and the wonderful people who belong to the Alpenglow family are here ready to help, share, support, care, and listen. Like a favorite book, comfortable sweater, or life long friend Alpenglow has become an essential part of many lives.

On any given day, you will find our office teeming with exceptional staff and dedicated volunteers. The staff members are answering phones, preparing for visits, and ensuring our patients and their families get personalized attention and support.

Joan Pimentel our Director of Patient Care Services motivates

and guides the staff throughout the days so skillfully, resulting in a beautifully choreographed and well executed production. She knows that facing the everyday struggles of life can be challenging enough, but facing the end of life can be a challenge that seems overwhelming. With that in mind, she has assembled a staff of nurses, social workers, home health aides, a chaplain, volunteers, a dietician, a medical director, and administrative staff who all recognize that each patient is unique and special. Providing compassionate care while meeting patient's needs, acknowledging their personality, family relationships, experiences and medical challenges is how our success is measured.

As Alpenglow's Administrator I am proud to be part of a team that has become an essential part of our community. As each patient and their loved ones find their way into our Alpenglow family, it is an honor to wel-



come them and join in their journey. I hope you will continue to support hospice as we continue to be the corner stone that provides stability and strength to those who need us.

At this time of year, we thankfully take time to honor our past...to provide care and compassion in the present... and to plan for our future.

Shelly R. Griffith  
Administrator

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## Mission to Educate Our Community About Hospice

Flowers are beautiful and always brighten the room. We even use them in our newsletters to provide a sense of peace and tranquility. Nevertheless, a memorial donation to Alpenglow Hospice Foundation can have a more profound impact on families and patients in need of hospice care. By memorializing a loved in this way you are helping to educate our commu-

nity regarding the importance of palliative care and the benefits that our interdisciplinary medical service provides. Our Staff spends a great deal of time in the community educating patients, families and healthcare providers. We are out there demystifying the word "hospice" and demonstrating that hospice and palliative care are really focused on living rather than dying. It is all about

making the patient and family comfortable during a very difficult time. Hospice is quickly becoming a household word associated with peace and tranquility for all those touched by its blessings.

Sincerely,

Eric Lenore, Executive Director

## James Howard Hughes - A Story of Inspiration

James Howard Hughes was born during the age of flight in 1917. A licensed pilot since the age of seventeen, James' love for flying continued throughout his long life. Joining the Air Force as a navigator, James honed his skills mastering the inner workings of aircraft and navigation systems. Following his service to his country, James began a 42 year career with North American (Rockwell) where he was an electrical test engineer on such high profile programs as the P51, B1 and various Apollo lunar missions. Throughout his career, Mr. Hughes continued to log hours flying whenever possible. When James was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer earlier this year, he immediately turned to his passion of flying as

both a distraction and a source of life. Thanks largely to his caregiver and daughter Jeanette, James made it his goal to return to flight at the age of 93. Jeanette accompanied her father to Aberdeen, South Dakota (the exact location of his first flight 75 years earlier) where she documented her father piloting a Cessna Sky Hawk II for his last time. While we lost James to his illness three weeks later, he inspired us all to reach for our dreams even in those final days. At Alpenglow we are both fortunate and proud to have cared for such an inspiring human being. Thank you James Howard Hughes for living your dream for all of us.



## Alpenglow Hospice Foundation - Donor Spotlight

Alpenglow Hospice Foundation recognized all the wonderful donors to our Foundation in the August 2010 Newsletter. In this edition we would like to extend a special thanks to those supporters who have contributed in excess of \$500 to the cause. These gracious donations were made primarily by families and friends who lead a "Memorial in Lieu of Flowers" for their loved one. With sincere gratitude we present these special donors below.

**Bary Schlieder and Family**  
**Richard Hunt Family**  
**Anne Walsh, Trustee**  
**Carol Binns**  
**The Royer Family**  
**The Rowe Family**  
**The Markshausen Family**

Please consider making a difference as well by donating to the Alpenglow cause.  
[Alpenglowhospicefoundation.com](http://Alpenglowhospicefoundation.com)

## Employee Spotlight - Kimberly Sharber

A radiant smile and a warm, caring and healing presence. That is the first and lasting impression that one receives every time Kimberly Sharber enters the room. Kimberly is a caring mother and grandmother who has found her life calling in the nursing field. Specifically, her special gift in caring for terminally ill patients and their families is what makes her so unique. Kimberly is a licensed vocational nurse with skills and compassion that go much beyond her clinical title. She is a cornerstone to Alpenglow's care team and has made our registered nurses jobs easier by supporting the plan of care whenever needed. Kimberly's tireless work ethic and vast clinical knowledge allow her to exceed the needs of her patients and families, while providing critical feedback to Alpenglow's case managers and staff. While family obligations have temporarily prevented her from returning to school to finish her RN degree, we fully expect Kimberly to secure that goal and have an even greater impact on the patients and families in her care. So it is with great pride and honor that we present Kimberly Sharber as Alpenglow's Employee Spotlight of the quarter.

