

Remembering Gladys!



Gladys was not only a resident living within Mary Centre, she was a dear friend to all who knew her.

She came to live at Mary Centre in 1994 where she resided until she passed away in January 2002. She lived a life filled with many accomplishments, had many friends and made us proud. Gladys suffered silently in her illness and was strong to the end, never losing her faith in God and her zest for life. Those of us who knew Gladys were blessed to have known an extraordinary woman. She was an honest, pure and gentle spirit, who brought love to everyone she met. She would brighten your world

with her warm and generous ways or simply with a smile.

So often we get caught up in the daily "hustle and bustle" of everyday life, that we forget to pay attention to the really important things. Gladys taught us to take the time to laugh, dream, and smell the flowers along the way. She blessed us with her courage, presence and hope. Gladys was an inspiration to all who knew her and she has given many of us the strength to tackle any situation that may come our way.

Our grief may only last moments, but our memories of Gladys will last a lifetime. We know in our hearts that her new journey will take her to a warm and wonderful place.



"...The lord bless you and keep you...and give you peace!..." Numbers 6:24-26

Her Friends

Joyous Easter

The goal of the Parish Outreach Committee is to assist the agency in its efforts to encourage parishes to include our residents in their faith community. We rejoice in the untiring efforts of Carol Chung to enable participation in their faith of choice. Opportunities in the past six months have arisen for John as an altar server at St. Anthony of Padua. Isla and Ron will attend a Faith and Light group regularly with other residents to participate in their own church and interfaith services. World Youth Day is an opportunity for our younger residents to be part of this unique event. John and Jenny were at the WYD countdown last summer with Carol. They all enjoyed the music, the videos, and special guests such as Justin Trudeau and Cardinal Ambrosic.

Enabling our residents to participate in faith communities and fulfill their spiritual needs is a goal of Mary Centre. There are many ways for volunteers to help in this by identifying opportunities for inclusion as well as concrete ways such as driving a resident to Church or attending a faith group with a resident.

May the joy of the Easter Season inspire us to action as expressed in the following prayer:

*As long as the sun comes over the hills,
Scatters the darkness, and fills the world with light;
As long as the fields get green again,
And the primroses and violets return;
As long as the trees fill up again with leaves,
There is hope for us and for the world.
So come, let us follow the footsteps of Spring;
For the snow has melted,
And life is awakening from its sleep
And wanders through the hills and valleys
Come, let us ascend the heights
And gaze upon the waving greenness of the plains
below.
O come, let us rejoice on this **Easter Day**,
For death has folded up his tent and gone away.*

Come walk with us!

The ShareLife Walk 2002 is a 5km Walk being held April 28, 2002 starting at 2:30 p.m. in High Park at the Bloor Street Entrance. Registration opens at noon and the Walk starts at 2:30 p.m. followed by a barbecue. Mary Centre staff, residents and friends will be participating to help ShareLife reach its fundraising goal. The fee for participation is \$10 and it entitles you to a T-shirt, barbecue and draw ticket for a "door" prize. Children aged 10 and under are free and must be accompanied by an adult.

Since 1976, ShareLife has been raising funds thanks to a very generous community. Deeply rooted in faith, with a desire to say yes to life and reach out to those suffering, ShareLife has been changing lives for over 25 years! Regardless of background or belief, they continue to respond to the needs of our community.

ShareLife's 33 agencies (of which Mary Centre is one) quietly go about their work each day both locally and globally. Their presence serves the needs of more than 100,000 people each year, offering hope, care and comfort to those suffering. Your donation allows our agencies to strengthen our community, changing lives forever. That gift is priceless.

BE A JOYFUL GIVER...A LIGHT OF HOPE!

Living at Our Lady of Victory Residence

I moved into Mary Centre in July of 2001. I found my apartment at Our Lady of Victory Place to be extremely big and beautiful. My friend, Heather Doherty, at the Famous People Player's helped me move my stuff into my new apartment. This was my first time living on my own.

The people at Our Lady of Victory Place are extremely nice and friendly, and are now my friends. I don't get a lot of time to attend functions and events at Our Lady because I am so busy at Famous People Players where I work. However, I did attend a bus trip to Casino Rama with the others from the building. This was fun but next time I have to remember to walk with some identification to show that I am of age!

I really like my apartment a lot. My worker, Andrea Kistow teaches me how to keep my apartment clean, do my laundry and fold my clothes, and helps me with grocery shopping. She also teaches me new and healthy recipes and how to plan a weekly menu. I now enjoy cooking with her help and can even cook chicken and fish on my own! I have learned many new skills since I have moved in and I continue to learn many more. I also learn a lot from working at Famous People Players where I serve meals during

the lunch and dinner shows, and sometimes act in some of the performances. I am very grateful of the support of my boss and friend, Diane Dupuy, and all my co-workers who are very kind and helpful to me.

Because I work long, late hours from Tuesday to Saturday, I really appreciate and love coming home to my apartment. It is my very special place that I call my own. I am very honoured to be living at Mary Centre.

Submitted by, Ginny Young

The Integrated Seniors Program expands to Peel Region

Some very exciting things are happening at Mary Centre, our agency is growing and expanding.

Presently, residents in Scarborough have been actively involved in the community through The Integrated Seniors Program. They participate in activities such as recreation programs, volunteer opportunities, and/or

educational courses.

Now, we have expanded our role in the Peel Region to better support people who have a developmental disability and are living in the community. We have identified programs or activities that are of interest to the senior with a developmental disability living in the Peel region. We are providing assistance to help the senior get started in an activity and support that individual until they become self-sufficient.

Do you know someone who meets the following criteria?

- Minimum age of 50 years
- Has a developmental disability
- Lives in Brampton, Mississauga or Caledon
- Inactive during the day
- Would like to do something even if for only 2 hours a week
- Has a caregiver that could use a rest?

If you know someone who fits this description, then encourage him or her, or even their caregiver to give us a call. Contact Tracy Sabeau at 905-793-2933.

Mark Your Calendar!

April 20, 2002 SAVA Community Party at Heron Park

Community Recreation Centre

April 28, 2002 ShareLife Walk, High Park, Toronto

May 28, 2002 Mary Centre's 3rd Annual Golf Tournament

Held at Silver Lakes Golf and Country Club

November 14 & 15, 2002 5th Annual Gala held at

Famous People Players Dinner Theatre

For more information regarding these events please call Marion Patterson at (416) 630-5533!

Salute to Tracy Sabean

I have had the pleasure of working very closely with Tracy for a little over a year now. In that one year she has made magic to promote Mary Centre in the community. Tracy has helped many individuals enhance the quality of their lives. She has had a profound effect on each and every one of them. For example, she has brought two individuals out of their shells. Tracy has also linked many of Mary Centre's individuals to fulfilling jobs and activities where they were once sitting idle and depressed. Tracy also has a positive influence on her co-workers by teaching us what she knows about communicating with individuals and making contacts in

the community. Her wonderful smile and sense of humour inspires me to improve my own support working skills. (I want to be Tracy when I grow up.) Tracy always goes the extra mile for everyone. I often remark at how multi-talented and hardworking Tracy is because she is greatly involved in running three programs, which are the Day Program, Community Support and Integrated Seniors program. She gives 110% to each program. I look forward to work everyday because I have Tracy Sabean as my sidekick!

Written by Harmeet Bassi,
Community Support Worker

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If you would like more information about Mary Centre and/or you would like to make a donation, please clip out this section, complete the information and return to our office.

I would like more information about the agency

I would like information on becoming a volunteer

I enclose a donation of: \$200.00 \$100.00 \$50.00 Other _____

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