

May 14, 2015

Ms. Gina Pendley- Executive Director
Georgia Mountain Hospice
70 Caring Way
Jasper, Georgia 30143

Dear Ms. Pendley and Staff

I wish to commend your entire staff for the wonderful personal care they provided to my wife Mary Jo, and our family from September 2014 until Jo's death on April 9, 2015. This was my first experience with a Hospice Organization, and I did not know exactly what to expect. I want to say from the time I first met our primary field team, Kimberly RN, Roland M.DIV Chaplin, and Jessie HHA, and others as they came to our home Elizabeth RN, Cecelia RN, Nancy RN, Patricia HHA, Becky HHA, Kerri HHA, and Kayla SW I felt comfortably relieved. I had been Jo Jo's primary caregiver since 2005 (approximately 10 years). I must confess I was suffering from PCF (Primary Caregivers Fatigue), and I was truly appreciative of all the help I could get.

Ms. Pendley, I know your field team could not function effectively without numerous supporting personal. I want to mention two others I had telephone contact with Tom, Director of Clinical Services, and Tracey, Operations manager, who were also very helpful. I'm sure others were working in the background that contributed also.

The first thing I noticed about these special people was their demeanor as they came to help Jo Jo. They were not like someone hired to fix something, they were more like family coming by to check on Jo Jo, and comfort her in anyway they could. Until their first visit Jo Jo had been practically bed bound for months and now she was beginning to act like her normal self. She looked forward to their visits and began to smile and laugh again. I never thought getting your vital signs checked, a bath, and singing old fashion revival songs could be so stimulating and such fun, but it was. You folks brought happy times back into our home.

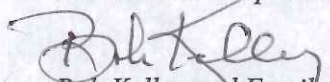
Jo Jo asked me why all these people were coming every day, am I sick? Being truthful I had to answer yes. She then asked, what was wrong? I answered honey we both have a very serious case of old age. Then she wanted to know if she was going to die? I told her yes we were both dying every day, and sometime it seemed like a race to see who would go first. This seemed to satisfy her since she didn't mention it again.

Kimberly as the team leader, kept me fully informed as to Jo Jo's current condition. She made sure we were prepared for the inevitable and discussed things we could do to make Jo Jo's passing as comfortable as possible. The information she shared with us allowed Jo Jo to make the transition from this life to the next with what we perceived as a minimum amount of stress, and we thank you all for that.

I'm aware we all have to work in order to support ourselves and family, but beyond that necessity, I sincerely believe you folks have answered a higher calling and you handle it in a very caring and supportive way to those you serve. It was so obvious in our day to day contacts with you all.

Early on I had asked Jo Jo if we could just adopt all of you she said, that would be nice. Then I begin to think about it. Our house just isn't big enough and I would have to buy a school bus to carry everyone when we went anywhere as a family, but then the bus might not make it up the mountain and even if it did I wouldn't have any place to park it. So after much prayerful consideration the best we can offer is to never forget the very kind, and professional care you provided to my darling Jo Jo, me and our family during the most difficult time we have ever experienced.

Our sincerest respect and love to you all,


Bob Kelley and Family